

# Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1878, March 19, 1955

## SOOTY IS JUST THE SAME AT HOME

### CN interview with popular puppet

*One of the most popular figures in the entertainment world today is the puppet Sooty. In every British home with a TV set he can be sure of a welcome, from young and old alike. But what is he like at home? Thinking our readers would like to know, we asked a correspondent to call on him, and here is the account of his "interview" with Sooty, aided and abetted by Harry Corbett.*

Sooty put out a paw.

I took it gently. The next moment my forefinger was seized in a vice.

"Hey, no. Sooty! No. Sooty!" exclaimed Harry Corbett. "Let go of his finger at once. This gentleman has come all the way to Guiseley to tell readers of Children's Newspaper what you are like at home. What will he think? I'm ashamed of you, behaving like this."

Sooty's head dropped. He hid his eyes in his paws.

We waited.

Slowly one paw slid down and he looked over the top of it at his master. Harry Corbett bent down and listened. "Sooty says," he interpreted, "he is very sorry and hopes you will forgive him."

"Of course," I said. "Now, how does . . ."

#### MAGIC MAKES IT WORSE

But Sooty wasn't listening. He had sprung perkily to Harry Corbett's ear.

"No," said his master. "I do not think it would be a good idea." He turned to me. "Sooty wants to know if he can 'magic' your finger better. But I shouldn't let him if I were you. Once he starts his magic you never know what is going to happen. Sooty put down that wand at once. Ouch!"

Obedient as ever, Sooty had put down the wand at once—smack on top of his master's head.

"He is always like this, even at home?" I said.

"Well," Harry Corbett covered up. "He is naughty, but it's just mischief, you know. He doesn't mean any harm. The trouble is he thinks he only has to wave his wand to get out of a scrape, but somehow his magic always goes wrong, and he usually finds himself in a worse mess than he was before."

#### SINGING, HIS GOOD POINT

Sooty waited. I studied his light brown fur, and the sooty black nose and ears that gave him his name. It has been his name from the first moment that he was seen—in a kiosk on the North Pier, Blackpool—by Harry Corbett and David, who is now nine, and six-year-old brother, Peter.

"I'm sure he does have some good points?" I suggested hopefully.

Sooty nodded his head vigorously and whispered. "He

says singing is one of his good points," Harry Corbett reported doubtfully.

"Of course," I recalled. "For some weeks now he has been going to sing My Tiny Paw is Frozen on television. The engineers always mess it up, don't they?"

Sooty agreed enthusiastically, but Harry Corbett was not amused. He was an electrical engineer up to two years ago. That was before Sooty, following two trial broadcasts, had started to appear regularly in Saturday Special, and then was given his own programme, Sooty Introduces.

#### CALLING HIS BLUFF

"How about singing it now, Sooty?" I asked.

It was obvious from his expression that there was nothing he would like better. I waited, but Sooty turned expectantly to Harry Corbett. For once, though, his master decided to call his bluff. "Yes, Sooty. Why don't you?" he said.

Head back, chest out, Sooty took a deep breath, and looked round. He couldn't sing without music.

"I'll play, Sooty," said Harry Corbett. The table turned over and the electronic organ revolved into position. One advantage of being a qualified engineer is seen in the beautifully moving mechanical equipment and toys that Harry Corbett has designed and made for Sooty.

He struck a note. Sooty's head went up, but immediately he was back at his master's ear. He really did not think he could sing for an audience of one.

#### LOSS OF VOICE

"Sooty!" rebuked Harry Corbett. "And in any case it isn't an audience of one. Think of all the readers of Children's Newspaper who are waiting to know how you sing My Tiny Paw is Frozen."

We started again. The note was struck, but Sooty stared at me as if he had not heard.

"He expects to be clapped when he comes on," whispered Harry Corbett.

"Sorry." I clapped. Sooty swept from side to side, bowing in acknowledgment.

"Enough, Sooty. That's quite enough," Harry Corbett checked him. "Now! Ready." He gave him the note, Sooty's head went



back, and then his paw was urgently rubbing his throat. He had lost his voice.

Apparently—from the way in which Sooty proceeded to show me how he did his deep breathing exercises, arms moving backwards and forwards across his chest, out, together, out, together—he had caught a cold at the open window that morning.

I was fortunate to have caught Sooty at home. Much of his time is spent travelling round the country. If he is not making professional appearances, he is visiting orphanages or giving charity performances, particularly for the National Children's Homes.

His interest springs from the time when his master used to do the electrical engineering at the local Home near Leeds. Sooty carried on the good work. In fact, his own club is run by the National Children's Homes, who benefit from the eightpence membership fee.

Continued on page 2

### SAUCE FROM THE GOOSE

Wild geese which regularly raid the crops at an experimental rice farm near Darwin, Australia, are not even intimidated by the noise of an automatic bird-scaring gun.

They wait for the periodic explosion and then swarm down, some even settling on the gun.

Last year the geese ate only newly-sown seed. But this year they are so bold that they eat the shoots right down as far as the seed, thus destroying entire plants.

### GOLDEN SANDS

While Mr. J. E. Rigby and his four children were making sand castles at Mentone Beach, near Melbourne, Australia, they found two half sovereigns.

So they all dug a little deeper and during the next hour found 20 sixpences, 12 shillings, 30 three-penny bits, 30 pennies, 30 half-pennies, three gold rings, one gold stud, one silver sleeve link, and one imitation gold ring.

### LAND GIRL WHO CANNOT SEE

Nina Barrett has been blind for 24 years—ever since she was 18 months old. Yet, almost every day she can be seen milking the cows and helping to clean out the piggeries at the Court Farm Institute, Caythorpe, Lincolnshire. And always at her side is Sweep, a border collie; he has been her eyes, her constant companion and guide, during the last eight years.

On leaving school Nina, a Londoner, earned her living for a while as an office telephonist. But she wanted an outdoor life, so she enlisted the help of her M.P. and eventually was allowed to become a student at Caythorpe Court Farm Institute.

Now she has high hopes that on completing her training at Caythorpe she will be able to take over a smallholding on her own account.





### They're changing the Guard at Buckingham Palace

The guards at Buckingham Palace have now reverted to the pre-war practice of changing every day instead of every 48 hours. Here the newly-mounted Scots Guards sentry salutes the "old guard" of Grenadiers as they march off duty.

### SCOTS CHILDREN TO COLLECT FOLK LORE

Scots boys and girls are being asked to help gather folk lore. They are to be invited to name all the places in their home districts, give any legends or tales connected with them, add a short description, and draw maps showing landmarks.

Dr. Winifred Temple, writing in the Scottish Educational Journal, says that children are in some ways better than adults as collectors of tradition.

"The country child, limited by his environment, obtains a closely detailed knowledge of his own countryside . . . The child, moreover, is taught by other children: habits and modes of speech are passed from one generation to its successor, and in many respects these are not carried on as the child grows . . ."

If the boys and girls will record information like this before they forget it—as most people do when

they grow older—they will be playing a useful part in helping the School of Scottish Studies of Edinburgh University to preserve records of the old words and old ways of Scotland.

Dr. Temple points out that children will find a new interest in their own district when they learn, for example, that a rock on a familiar seashore was named Hestan because a Viking thought it looked like a horse.

They will discover in how many different ways names have been given to places. Some have been due to appearance, like Glen Buidhe (Yellow Valley) or Green Hill; from possession like Monks-croft, Pitskellicor Johnston; others from animals or plants like Gowkshill; or from Celtic saints like Inchcolm and Kilbarchan.

Educational authorities are being asked to encourage school-children to take part in the work.

### Sooty is the same at home

continued from page

Consequently, on the days that Sooty is at home he has a very full programme. He must practise scales and his signature tune, The Teddy Bears' Picnic, on his dulcimer and electronic organ. New magic must be rehearsed. His own house and shops must be kept clean and in good repair. His fan mail has to be answered.

I noticed a sheet of notepaper in his small typewriter, on which he was replying to a little girl asking for the loan of his magic wand. "Please let me have it by tomorrow morning," she wrote. "It's most important." The "most" was underlined. Probably an arithmetic examination was causing trouble, we decided.

"One last thing," I said. "What about pets?"

He nodded and whispered to Harry Corbett who asked me: "Would you like to see his mice? If so, he'll magic them up for you. When he waves his wand and says 'Izzy wizzy, let's get busy,' will you help by saying 'mice?'"

The spell was laid. I shouted, "Mice!"

We waited, but Sooty's table stayed as bare as Mother Hub-

bard's cupboard. I watched the clock anxiously. I did not want to miss my train, and I was sure Sooty ought to get back to answering his correspondence.

Besides, I wanted to scratch the back of my neck; a hair or something on my collar had started to tickle in a very irritating way.

"I'm sorry," I said at last. "I have to go now."

Harry Corbett looked wryly at Sooty, who paid no heed but watched with interest as I slid the notepad into my pocket. It would not go right down. I put my hand into the pocket and felt something soft and warm. I drew out a mouse. Instinctively I put my hand to the tickle on the back of my neck. It was another mouse all right.

Sooty nodded joyfully, and started bowing.

"But, Sooty," complained Harry Corbett. "You didn't produce the mice on the table. The magic went wrong again."

Sooty shook his head indignantly. The magic was not wrong, he protested emphatically. I had said "Mice," and I had got them.

Sooty had the last word



By the C.N. Press Gallery Correspondent

POUNDS, shillings, and pence are a never-failing source of interest to us all—and to the House of Commons in particular. Parliament is specially interested just now for it is busy studying the departmental estimates.

Each Whitehall department, Service and Civil, draws up a list of items each winter and "estimates" how much it ought to spend on each one.

The detailed estimates are then considered in consultation with the Treasury. A certain amount of "pruning" usually takes place before each of the spending departments separately presents the full estimates to Parliament.

#### OPPOSITION'S RIGHT

These are the published documents under discussion in the series of debates now proceeding. The figures, of course, relate to the financial year which begins next month, not to the financial year now coming to a close.

As the estimates are prepared by the Government, it is the Opposition who have the right to demand an examination of them in public. They can command a debate on the affairs of any department 20 or 30 times in a Parliamentary session.

Such debating days are called "supply" days, because they take place with the Commons sitting as a Committee of Supply—a major committee of which all M.P.s are members. The Committee is so called because it "supplies" the money for the nation's needs.

#### HISTORIC FORMULA

Each of these debates takes place on a motion "to move Mr. Speaker out of the Chair"—an historic formula dating from the period when Speakers regarded themselves as owing a duty more to the Sovereign than to the Commons.

In those days a Speaker sometimes wished to leave the Chair and thus end the proceedings so that he could hasten to his Royal master with an account of the Commons' unfavourable proceedings. Or he insisted on remaining in the Chair so that he could influence proceedings in the Sovereign's favour.

Nowadays, the Speaker never leaves the Chair on these occasions. But the motion ensures that the House always has a "question" before it for discussion.

#### LIFE OF A POUND

Coming back to common-or-garden £ s. d. . . Mr. Butler, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, reveals that the average working life of a pound note today is just over a year. A ten-shilling note remains in circulation for about half that period before it is withdrawn.

There is, according to another Parliamentary answer, a local shortage of shillings, although it is estimated there are about 640 million shillings in circulation.

## News from Everywhere

#### ON THE BORDERS

Boundary signs bearing the Essex coat-of-arms and the name Essex are to be set up on 32 main roads on the borders of the county.

At a recent London auction £130 was paid for a single leaf of the first edition of the Gutenberg Bible, printed about 1455.

Air and Land Rangers in the Girl Guides can now wear the new style blue cap instead of the beret. Sea Rangers will continue to wear the traditional Naval cap.

#### LAND OF OIL

Thirty of the 48 States of America are now known to contain oil or natural gas.

Since the Christmas Day Wireless for the Blind appeal, donations have totalled over £61,000.

A stone from St. David's Cathedral, in Pembrokeshire, has been sent to Washington Cathedral to be used as a foundation stone.

Students at Branford College, Yale University, want washing machines installed. Sending laundry home takes too long and outside charges are too high.

#### NEW HIGHWAY CODE

The new Highway Code will be on sale next week, price 1d. a copy.

Mr. William C. Leech, a Newcastle builder who began life as an errand boy, has created a trust fund of £100,000 for Christian missionary work.

#### BACK IN FAVOUR

Donkeys have returned to such favour in Africa that in certain areas they are being specially imported.

A consignment of 400 two-day-old chicks was recently flown from Lincolnshire to India, 6000 miles away. All arrived safely.

A plan is being considered for a helicopter station on pontoons on the River Thames.

#### BARGAINS

A motor car was sold for 2½d. at a recent auction in Denver, Colorado. Two others went for 2s. 1d. and 21s. 6d.

The Rev. B. B. Liptrott, 96-year-old rector of Farringdon, near Exeter, is retiring next month after 72 years as a minister.

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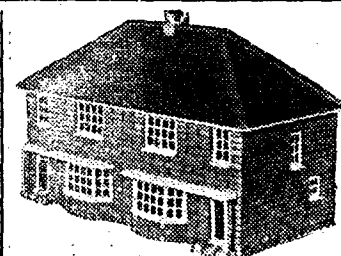
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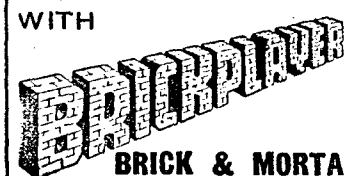
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**CN Picture-News and Time Map**

The clocks above show time all over the world. Sunlight moves westward round the Earth, travelling 15 degrees an hour. This means that every 15 degrees east of Greenwich the clock is one hour ahead, and every 15 degrees west is one hour behind.

**AKLAVIK**, a Canadian town some 150 miles inside the Arctic Circle, is to be moved from its present site to a new one 33 miles away. About 1600 Eskimos and Indians will move with the town. See news columns

**CANADA**

**U.S.A.**

**PACIFIC OCEAN**

**BRAZIL AND BOLIVIA** now have a direct railway link—a new 400-mile stretch of line between Corumba and Santa Cruz. Laid through disease-infected swampland and jungle, the line took 15 years to complete, and brings nearer the plan for a railway system crossing South America from Santos on the Atlantic coast to Arica on the Pacific coast.

**PERU** **BOLIVIA** **BRAZIL** **CHILE** **PARAGUAY** **ARGENTINA**

**Santa Cruz** **Corumba** **Arica** **Grande** **Rio de Janeiro** **Santos**

**AFRICA**

**EUROPE**

**ASIA**

**INDIA**

**NEW ZEALAND**

**AUSTRALIA**

**NEW PLYMOUTH** **North Island**

**THE CEMENT WORKS** is to be built at Nkalagu, near Enugu, in Nigeria. The factory will have a yearly output of 100,000 tons.

**Enugu** **Nkalagu**

**THE CRAWFISH INDUSTRY** of the South Atlantic island of Tristan da Cunha is having a prosperous season. So much of the fish is being canned that two boats now ply between the island and Cape Town. See news columns

**CAPE TOWN** **Tristan da Cunha**

**ROAD BUILDING** in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, and Kashmir will lead to the linking of mountain roads to form a 600-mile highway from Srinagar, capital of Kashmir, to the village of Dharchula in the Himalayas.

**Srinagar-Kashmir** **Himachal Pradesh** **Uttar Pradesh**

**A RUSSIAN EXPEDITION** to the Gobi Desert has unearthed the remains of thousands of dinosaurs, giant lizard-like creatures which lived millions of years ago.

**Gobi Desert**

## LUCKY FOR THE BOY NEXT DOOR

Howard Castley, aged ten, who lives in Southern Rhodesia, was cycling by the flooded Gwelo River when he saw a small boy bobbing in the middle of the stream.

Howard dived in, clutched the little boy by the shirt collar, struggled to the bank, and only then discovered that he had rescued Reggie Marchant, who lives next door.

So Howard is now teaching Reggie to swim in the Gwelo municipal swimming bath.

## MOVING A TOWN

A whole Canadian town will move during this summer because melting frost turns the ground into a quagmire. A new 600-acre site has been found for Aklavik, 33 miles east of its present location on the bank of the Mackenzie River, and 70 miles south of the Arctic Ocean. Most of the summer population of some 1600 Eskimos and Indians will be moved lock, stock, and barrel by the Canadian Government.

See World Map

## Our gannets

A recent article in the CN stated that you are not likely to see gannets away from the western coasts of Britain. Actually they are also to be seen off our northern, southern, and eastern coasts, particularly off East Lothian and Berwickshire, and there is a huge colony on Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth.

## Crawfishers of Tristan

For the sixth year in succession the people of Tristan da Cunha are having a prosperous crawfishing season, and reports from this Atlantic island, half-way between South America and South Africa, say that the canning factory is as busy as ever.

The industry began six years ago when a naval chaplain was being rowed out to sea from the steep beach. He noticed the teeming myriads of crawfish feeding on the rich belts of seaweed close to the shore. (The crawfish is a kind of lobster without pincers.)

"Why not export crawfish?" he suggested to the people of Tristan. Today the first thing that

visitors to Tristan see as they approach the lonely island is the chimney of the factory building.

Tristan is just a small English community of about 280 people, and up to the coming of the crawfish factory the people found it hard to live. They sold curios to passing ships, caught seals and whales, and grew potatoes. But now the crawfish industry has changed all this.

Two small ships now ply between the island and Cape Town, 1500 miles to the east, loaded with tinned crawfish on the outward journey, and bring back clothes, food, and furniture.

See World Map

## Ship's radio officer



The youngest officer in the Danish Merchant Navy, 21-year-old Else Wohlers Jensen, is radio officer and only woman in the crew of the M.S. Pasadena, which is on a round-the-world trip.

## ROUND THE WORLD IN A YACHT

Three young men will leave Greenock next month in a 45-foot yacht, intent on sailing round the world.

They are Alex McKay, aged 29, a 26-year-old Englishman, Richard Denny, from Basingstoke, and Derry Erskine, 27, from South Africa.

They have planned that Madeira shall be their first stop, and then they will sail on to Rio de Janeiro, and thence back across the South Atlantic to spend Christmas at Erskine's home in Durban, South Africa.

The next stage will be 6000 miles to Australia, and the return home will be by way of Vancouver, the Panama Canal, and across the Atlantic once more.

## NEW ZEALAND'S PLYMOUTH

The port of New Plymouth, in New Zealand, is to have a new wharf costing £600,000. It will take two years to rebuild.

The most westerly port in North Island, New Plymouth, was founded by Devonshire settlers in 1841. For 60 years passengers and cargo were landed in surf boats. Now it has New Zealand's finest breakwater harbour. Many ships are loaded there with cargo for Britain.

See World Map

## CHOICE OF VEGETABLES

The hard winter has been driving wild deer from the 35,000 acres of forest lands on the Norfolk and Suffolk borders, and sending them to forage for food on neighbouring farmland.

They have raided fields for carrots and chicory but would not touch swedes or cabbages.

## BIRTHDAY RECORD

Mrs. Sarah Humphrey, who lives at Redhill, Surrey, is thought to have the proud distinction of being the oldest person in Britain. She recently celebrated her 108th birthday.

One of her neighbours asked the BBC to play her a birthday record. They chose Fanfare Boogie.

## New helicopter service

This summer will see the opening of another European helicopter service. Ten-seater Sikorsky S-55's and four-seater Bell 47's will operate between Copenhagen in Denmark and Malmö, Sweden.

"I'm in increasing demand says Bertie"

**Bassett's ALLSORTS**

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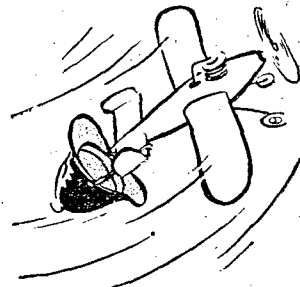
"Dad's in . . .



trouble again!



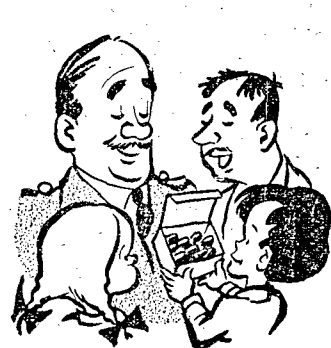
Let's . . .



rescue . . .



him with . . .



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## IT HAPPENED

### THIS WEEK

## ADMIRAL BYNG EXECUTED

MARCH 14, 1757. PORTSMOUTH—On board the quarter-deck of the Monarque in the harbour here today 53-year-old Admiral John Byng was shot in accordance with the sentence passed on him by court martial.

Admiral Byng—fourth son of Admiral Viscount Torrington, the victor of Gibraltar—entered the Navy at the age of 14 and had a distinguished career up to last year when he was defeated in battle by the French.

The British Fleet under his command was given the task of relieving the British force at St. Philip's Castle at Minorca, but was defeated in battle by a French fleet with greater armament.

The defeat led to a public outcry in Britain and the Admiral was brought home under arrest.

The Court found the Admiral not guilty of cowardice or disaffection, but guilty of negligence.

### 500,000 NEW VOTERS

MARCH 15, 1831. LONDON—In all the industrial towns of Britain today people who have never been able to elect a Member of Parliament are discussing with enthusiasm the drastic reform of Parliament proposed in the Bill introduced in the Commons last night.

The Bill—known as the Reform Bill—was introduced by Lord John Russell, to whom had been delegated the great task of composing it. The most drastic reform of Parliament since the Middle Ages, it will bring the vote to more than 500,000 people.

At present 157 Members of Parliament are elected by only 84 electors! One of the most notorious examples quoted by those demanding reform is the constituency of Old Sarum. This is at present represented by two M.P.s and yet has no inhabitants at all, whereas such towns as Sheffield, Birmingham, and Manchester have no representative in Parliament.

Under the Bill these and other important towns will be able to elect Members of Parliament. Places like Old Sarum and other "rotten boroughs" will no longer be represented.

### YOUNG PRINCE IS MADE A DUKE

MARCH 17, 1337. WESTMINSTER—His Majesty King Edward III today conferred the title "Duke of Cornwall" upon his six-year-old son, Prince Edward. Thus, for the first time, Duke has become an English title.

The King's wish—expressed in the new Duke's charter—is that this particular title shall always be held by the eldest son of the sovereign of England.

(Prince Edward, who became Prince of Wales and later was the victor of Crecy, became known as the "Black Prince"—because, it is said, of the colour of his armour. The title Duke of Cornwall is held today by the Queen's son, Prince Charles.)

## RADIO AND TV

# The little girl who played with wax

A SIX-YEAR-OLD girl, Marie Grossholtz, playing with a lump of wax in Paris 170 years ago, unconsciously started a career that led to the founding of the famous Madame Tussaud's waxworks in London in 1800. The little girl became Madame Tussaud, and her story will be told in a play on Children's TV on Thursday, repeated on Sunday.

Written by Marjorie Beech, the play opens with some Americans



Bernard Tussaud with a model of his great-great grandmother, made by herself in 1842.

looking at the, waxwork of Madame Tussaud which is still in the London collection; then the voice of the wonderful old lady tells how she started her career.

Marie was in Paris with her widowed mother when her uncle, Dr. Philippe Curtius, noticed her skill with wax. Before long she was modelling portraits of the French Royal Family. Her escape in the French Revolution, her journey to London and marriage to Francois Tussaud, make an enthralling story.

Marie as a child will be played by Rajni Anand and as a young girl by Judy Leaning.

### Effective

BLIND children in a party arranged by the Royal National Institution for the Blind spent a fascinating afternoon recently in the Effects Room of the BBC. Lifelike sounds they have heard in radio plays were explained by Charles Willis, who looks after the noises store, and John Horden, who manufactures the effects.

The children ran their fingers over all sorts of gadgets: a taximeter made of odd ratchets and bells, a bean cutter sounding like a creaking farm cart, an old tin with a motor inside representing a vacuum cleaner. The visitors learnt how crunching snow is simulated by squeezing cotton wool in the palm of the hand, and a forest fire by crumpling Cellophane.

The noise of an elephant trampling through jungle grass was made by passing a cord through the bottom of a covered wastepaper basket and running a cloth up and down the cord.

### Then and now

MABEL CONSTANDUROS, of Würzel Gummidge fame, has been telling me how boys and girls amused themselves 50 years ago before the coming of radio and TV. In a talk in Children's Hour on Friday she will tell of her own childhood, when, as one of a large family, she loved parties and parlour games and the musical evenings when uncles and aunts would drop in to sing songs at the piano.

"We had to make our own fun in those days," said Miss Constanduros. "We would dress up as other people and stay like it for days and days in a world of our own imagination. I sometimes wonder whether radio and TV tend to discourage young people from creating pleasures of their own."

If this is so, I am afraid we must lay some of the blame on Mabel Constanduros herself. She has been broadcasting for 30 years!

### How to make money

Do you want to know how to make money? Then tune in Saturday Excursion in Children's Hour on Saturday, when BBC microphones are being taken round the Royal Mint. The tour will be a thorough one; there will be four visiting commentators—Cliff Michelmore, Douglas Fleming, Henry Riddell, and Max Robertson.

### Inventors galore

LESLIE HARDERN, who organises TV Inventors' Club, tells me the programme will be back on the air in April, after a four months' break, in a much livelier style of presentation. Meanwhile, more than 120 worthwhile inventions have piled up waiting for a showing.

In its seven-year run, Inventors Club has been an excellent shop-window for new ideas.

ERNEST THOMSON

### Meeting the marionettes



Six-year-old Lois Monk of Bexley in Kent seems a little overawed at meeting some of the "performers" of Podrecca's Piccoli Theatre, the marionette show at the Saville Theatre in London.



# SCIENCE HELPS THE DAIRY FARMER

IN the old days farming was carried on by traditional methods and notions handed down from father to son. But during the last century the advance in science in other departments of life has more and more turned inquiries as to the Why and When and How of the food we eat and the milk we drink.

The progress of hygiene, too, has meant planning a war that must be waged by science against all the harmful things that attack us through food.

In the year 1912 the Ministry of Agriculture founded a Research Institute at the University of Reading (then University College). A few years later, just after the First World War, it moved a few miles south to Shinfield just off the Basingstoke road.

The old rectory, with a magnificent cedar tree on one side and the old village church on the other, grew into a big institution. The house became the centre of a range of laboratories with a workshop and library, sheds for cows, pigs, goats, and chickens. Two adjoining farms were gradually acquired.

Today, from small beginnings, the National Institute for Research in Dairying, as it is called, has a staff of over 300 including scientists, clerical workers, and farm hands.

All their work is devoted, in the broadest sense, to the study of milk; and not just the liquid which

Part of the premises at Shinfield is occupied by the Commonwealth Bureau of Dairy Science which collects information, especially from technical journals and learned societies, and passes it on to those who are interested.

The quiet old Berkshire rectory has indeed changed!

On one of the walls is proudly displayed a photograph of King George V inspecting the Institute in its early days. Close to it is a picture of the Duke of Edinburgh at the present-day Shinfield, which has grown so much since that first Royal visit.

This growth has simply come as a result of modern demands for more and more knowledge about milk, which is one of the basic foods on which our life is built.

The work is divided among eight different departments. Dairy Husbandry, Feeding, and Physiology deal with milk production. Then come Bacteriology, Chemistry, Physics, Dairy Engineering, and Nutrition which are departments concerned with applying scientific research and its findings, not only to farm production but to the industrial side of dairying. In a country as thickly populated as ours the industrial side is of the utmost importance.

Dairy Husbandry looks after the two research farms around the old rectory. The main milking herd of Shorthorns, Guernseys, and Friesians is kept at Church Farm while the calves are reared mainly at the neighbouring Arborfield Farm.

It is at Arborfield Farm that you will find the sets of identical twin



Milking time for the Institute's fine herd of Shorthorns, Friesians, and Guernseys.

time. If unrelated calves were used, far more tests would have to be made to allow for variation in individuals.

To give some idea of the great variety and value of the work carried out in this corner of Berkshire, here are a few special subjects of research.

Penicillin is given to animals as well as human beings, of course, and because it gets into the milk it is liable to upset cheese production by affecting the minute organisms which start off the process. A suitable test has now been devised so that manufacturers can detect any important amount of penicillin in the milk they use for cheesemaking.

Then there is the question of off-flavour in cheese. This might be produced by many different causes and it is the Institute's business to discover what they are.

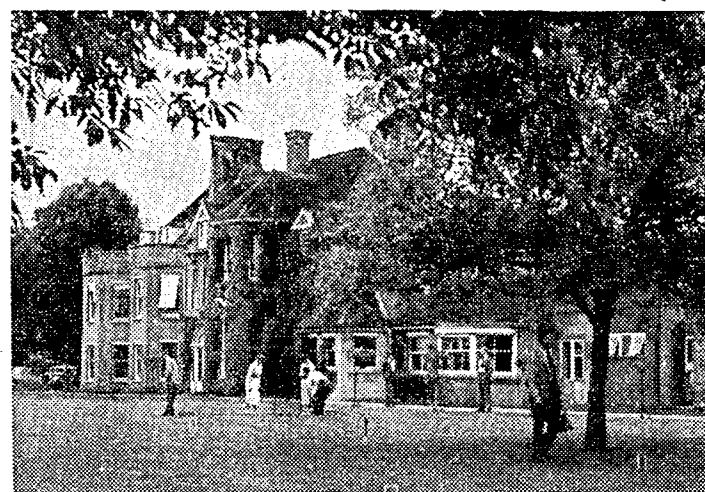
The keeping-quality of butter, the question of electrically-warmed floors for pigs which are being fattened, and the testing of the electric fence (a great labour and time saver) are just three more interesting subjects chosen at random to give a broad picture of what is going on, day by day, at Shinfield.

Goats as well as cows are used in the study of milk production. They are the whitest goats I ever saw and live in a beautifully light stable. They show the greatest interest in visitors, too, and loudly demand that you return once you have had a word with them and passed on.

The Bacteriology and Engineering Department deals with important questions concerning the cleaning and sterilising of milking machines, especially with a view to reducing cost.

We should remember that as short a time ago as 1912, when the Institute was established, the keeping qualities of milk produced under good and bad conditions had still to be demonstrated conclusively. And the great test schemes by which our nation inspects its milk supply, as with the T.T. (tuberculin tested) herds, have been brought about by the work and the influence of the Institute at Shinfield. Though most of us know it not, we all benefit from it.

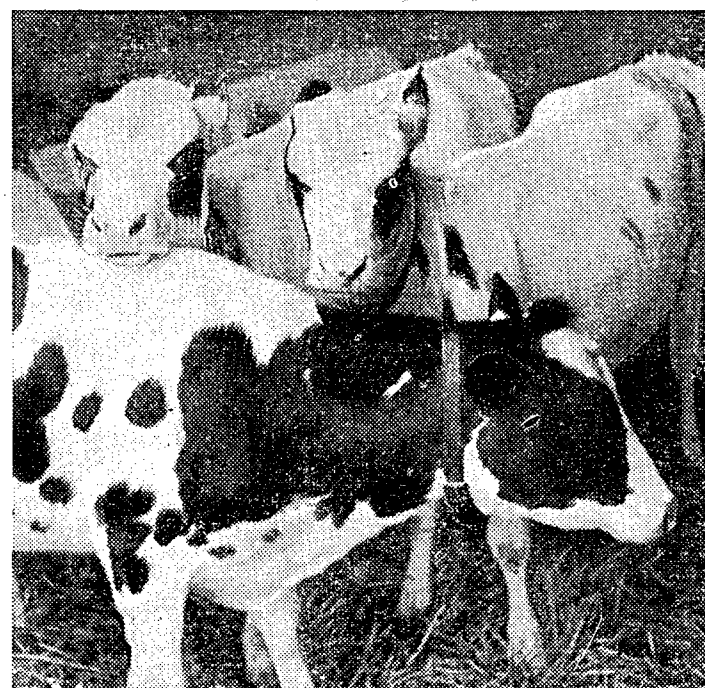
A. V. I.



The old rectory has grown into a great national institution.



Making butter in the experimental dairy for the Institute's work.



Identical twin calves face the camera at Shinfield.

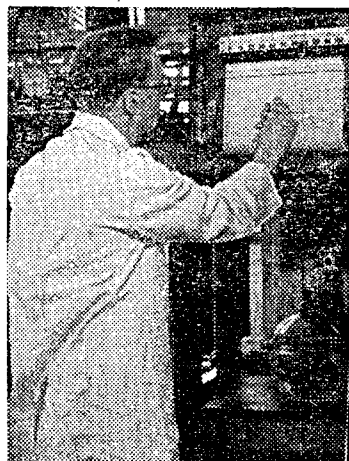


On the way to take milk samples.

goes into the dairyman's bottles. The story of milk begins with the fertilisers which make grass and other fodder grow, and continues right through the complicated process which goes on inside that four-footed factory, the cow; and then on to the final products—the butter and the cheese; not to mention the milk powder which is used by the chocolate and ice-cream manufacturers.

And in the course of all this process there are thousands of facts to be collected and examined.

Experts from almost every country in the world come to Shinfield for advice or to exchange information. Moreover, the results of its experiments are passed on, through United Nations and other organisations, for the benefit, in health and nourishment, of millions of men, women, and children all over the globe.



In the Physics Department.

calves which Shinfield spends so much trouble in collecting. Usually the farmer does not care for identical twins because they are apt to be delicate from birth and easy to lose. But the Institute needs them. You see, every living thing is an individual but identical twins are the nearest you can get to two separate editions (so to speak) of the same individual.

If you want to find out what effect a particular technique of machine milking will have on an individual, the use of identical twins enables you, virtually, to conduct the same trial twice with the same animal and at the same



# Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House  
Whitefriars . London . EC 4  
MARCH 19 ..... 1955

## THEY LOOK AND THEN THEY READ

It is feared in some quarters that television will lead to a decline in reading. But from America comes some evidence that it has just the opposite effect.

In this great country which has such a wide choice of TV programmes the sales of classics for children have "sky-rocketed" in the past two years.

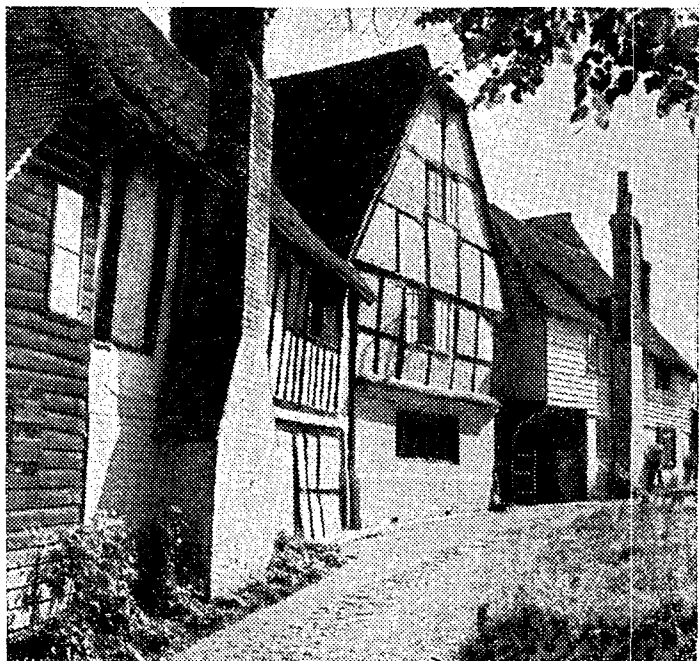
Mr. J. C. Doerfer, head of the Federal Communications Commission, has stated that the mention of a book on television is almost automatically followed by a demand for the book, and that any discussion of controversial or provocative matters brings an immediate demand for books on the subject.

The generally expected result does not always follow. Sound radio, by promoting a wider interest in music, greatly increased the sale of gramophone records—exactly the opposite of what had been predicted.

It may well prove that television, by creating greater interest in literature and authors, will lead to an increasing demand for good books.

### JUST AN IDEA

As Henry Ward Beecher wrote: A home without books is like a house without windows.



OUR HOMELAND

## AMBASSADOR

IN a sense, every soldier overseas is an ambassador of his country. Certainly Master Sergeant Lyons of the U.S. Air Force took his envoy duties seriously. When, in 1951, he went with his wife and children to live in the Oxfordshire village of Cassington he threw himself into its social life with typical American zeal.

He gave a hand to the Scout troop, to the Youth Club, to the cricket and football teams. In one way or another he raised hundreds of pounds to provide the village with a new church bell, a sports field, and a children's playground.

The people of Cassington will long remember Master Sergeant Lyons, "ambassador of goodwill."

## Thirty Years Ago

From the Children's Newspaper,  
March 21, 1925

AFTER all, Australia remained well on the top in those cricket Test Matches that so excited us; and she deserved it.

We have yet to look forward to the time when we can say and feel that we ought to have won. It would be mean to blame in any way our team. They were a sound team. They played their best, and a good proportion of them, at one time or another, played up to their reputation. Yet they were so much beaten, on the whole, that no one can say Australia won by any favour of fortune. England has to pocket her pride and wait. Cricket "down under" is still unmistakably on the top.

## Count Your Blessings

GOD's best gifts are the commonest—the air, the light, the beauty of the world, the blue of heaven, the winds and stars, and sunsets, the infant smile, the mother's tenderness, the sweet affection of sister, child, and wife.

Dean F. W. Farrar

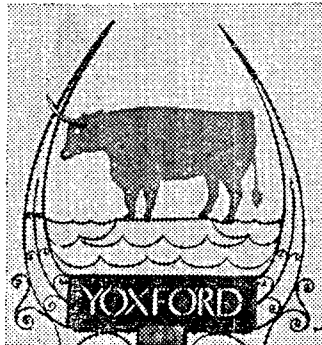
# The Editor's Table

## Light on cats

MOST of us know that if you stroke a cat on a cold day it generates electricity, but now an American engineer has added to the sum of knowledge on the subject. He has found that to generate enough electricity to light a 75-watt bulb for a minute you would have to stroke a cat 9200 million times!

Strange, sometimes, are the uses of expert knowledge.

## Village signs—27



The sign of the Suffolk village of Yoxford—one that needs no explanation.

## Think on These Things

THE "helmet of salvation" which the Christian is to wear as part of his armour is a wonderful and beautiful thing. He can wear it with confidence in its safety because it is the salvation which Jesus has won for us.

It was said of Jesus that "He shall save His people from their sins." This is what Jesus does for us. When we think of Him, it is as Saviour, a bringer of salvation, and safety.

It is Jesus who frees us from self. We put Him at the centre of our life, and He gives us the power to conquer self. He saves us.

Let us "take the helmet of salvation . . ." O. R. C.

## Sleeping Beauty

YEAR after year unto her feet  
She lying on her couch  
alone,  
Across the purple coverlet,  
The maiden's jet-black hair has  
grown,  
On either side her tranced form  
Forth streaming from a braid  
of pearl:  
The slumbrous light is rich and  
warm,  
And moves not on the rounded  
curl.

She sleeps: her breathings are  
not heard  
In palace chambers far apart.  
The fragrant tresses are not  
stirred  
That lie upon her charmed heart.  
She sleeps: on either hand  
upswells  
The gold-fringed pillow lightly  
prest:  
She sleeps, nor dreams, but ever  
dwells  
A perfect form in perfect rest.

Alfred Tennyson

## THEY SAY . . .

OF course the Loch Ness monster is a lady. We like her so much that we call her "Nessie," and no lady, not even the bearded lady, could ever be a really successful monster.

Mr. John Rankin, M.P.

I THINK there is every chance of our holding on to the Ashes for the next five to eight years.

G. O. Allen, former Middlesex and England captain

GREATER changes have taken place in the last 50 or 30 years than in all the years between the coming of Christ and the present century.

The Archbishop of York

IF you ask me what I consider is the most important lesson that we should teach in the schools, I would say: "to want to go on learning when you've left school."

Sir David Eccles,  
Minister of Education

## WORD QUIZ

Can you say whether a, b, or c is the correct meaning of the following five words?

- 1 CAMBER
  - a The arched form of a road
  - b A yellow resin used for beads
  - c An easy gallop
- 2 PUNNET
  - a Learned Hindu
  - b Flat-bottomed boat
  - c Small chip basket for fruit
- 3 DELEGATE
  - a Deputy or representative
  - b Solemnly devote to God
  - c Dainty or sheltered
- 4 MITIGATE
  - a Plan mentally
  - b Appease or reduce
  - c Treat medically
- 5 PERSPICUOUS
  - a Having mental discernment
  - b Easily understood
  - c Stubborn or obstinate

Answers on page 12

## Out and About

WHERE the pebbly stream begins to widen a little into slower-moving shallows by the shore there is enough insect life, in the water as well as above, to account for the pretty pied wagtails that flitter to and fro.

If you are near enough when one of these birds stops on a boulder, wagging his tail, you may hear his sweet little song of Spring. In summer it seems to be only a loud chattering.

Higher up the stream, where there is a small waterfall, and alders on both banks add to the seclusion, can be seen another interesting bird, mostly dark grey and brown. This is the Dipper or Water Ouzel, or as some country folk call it Benny Ducker. It can swim comfortably under water, but instead of diving walks into and under the water.

One can be sure it is a Dipper by its habit of perching on a stone above the water-level and bobbing up and down as if curtsying.

C. D. D.

# Next Week's Birthdays

## March 20

René Coty (1882). President of the French Republic. A distinguished lawyer and politician. A proud son of Normandy, he was born in Le Havre.

## March 21

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Composer and organist. His family had been famed for musical skill for more than 200 years before his birth, but in Johann Sebastian they produced one of the greatest musical geniuses the world has known.

## March 22

Sir Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641). Portrait painter. Apprenticed at the age of 10, he was a



full member of the Antwerp guild of painters before he was 19. But not until he secured the official patronage of Charles I in 1632 did his talent find full reward and scope, in England.

## March 23

Jimmy Edwards (1920). D.F.C., M.A. (Cantab). Lord Rector of Aberdeen, 1951, but better known as a radio and stage comedian.

## March 24

Olive Schreiner (1855-1920). This year marks the centenary of the birth of this South African novelist, author of "The Story of an African Farm." All her life a champion of the cause of the African people, she was also a pioneer in the struggle for the emancipation of women.

## March 25

Arturo Toscanini (1867). World-famous conductor. In



1886 he was a 'cellist on tour with an Italian opera company when the conductor withdrew just before a performance of Aida. His prodigious musical memory was already known and the baton was thrust into his hands. Only recently has he laid it down, probably for the last time.

## March 26

A. E. Housman (1859-1936). Classical scholar and poet. He wrote of boys and girls and scenes of Shropshire, as he saw them first, nearly 100 years ago, and made them magic. His last book is prefaced by a poem which begins:

They say my verse is sad: no wonder;  
Its narrow measure spans  
Tears of eternity, and sorrow,  
Not mine, but man's.



The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1955

## REPORT ON WILD LIFE

# BADGERS, BIRDS, LOBSTERS

If you live in North-East England you should be pleased to know that a recent inquiry into the numbers and distribution of the badger in Northumberland and Durham shows that this animal has steadily increased its numbers.

There is about one badger to every three foxes in the area, and the animal ranges from as high as 2000 feet on Windy Ghyll, in the Cheviots, down to sea-level. The most usual number in a litter is three, though the hill badgers seem to have larger litters than the lowland ones.

In those wild hills of Upper Coquetdale the goosander, which formerly nested only in Scotland, is now firmly established as a nester in hollow trees on the Border. But the black grouse,



The badger, seldom seen, is increasing in numbers.

once common there, is decreasing so much that it is almost extinct, excepting for a few in the birch woods near the source of Barrow Burn.

Fortunately the Forestry Commission's young plantations are now attracting more short-eared owls, and four pairs of ravens nest annually. In winter the lake near Burradon is a haunt of teal and goosanders, while goldeneye visit the river near Holystone. It is nearly 20 years since a golden eagle visited the valley.

Our next report comes from the Midlands where a list has been made of 157 birds found inside the city bounds of Leicester. If you live there you will find the tufted duck a fairly frequent visitor to the river and the canal, and even at times to the lake in Abbey Park, with sometimes a pochard (another diving duck) for company.

The River Soar at Belgrave has several interesting waterfowl visitors, including an occasional wild whooper swan, but probably most variety amongst the scarcer birds is seen at the sewage farm, which is a haunt of snipe, golden plover, curlew, dunlin, barn-owl and short-eared owl. The nuthatch is seen at Braunstone and in Western Park, and for several years now the pied wagtails form a large winter roost each night on the glass roof of the Post Office in Campbell Street.

### WHY BIRDS DIE

Maybe you picked up some dead birds in the cold spells? Have you ever wondered why the birds died? A national investigation recently conducted by the Department of Animal Pathology at Cambridge University collected birds found dead in many parts of the country and examined them in the laboratory.

Of the 112 birds sent to the laboratory, 22 were found to have died from bacterial diseases, six from virus-borne disease, and a further 25 from suspected virus infection, 19 had been poisoned by something eaten, 14 died from injuries, while for the rest no certain cause could be found. You seldom find birds dying directly from cold, although they sometimes die from lack of food or water caused by cold spells.

### NEW SANCTUARY

A new Cheshire bird sanctuary has been formed by the Merseyside Naturalists' Association, for wildfowl and migratory waders on a 70-acre marsh in the estuary of the River Weaver. The winter haunt of Bewick's swans, smew, and goldeneye, it is visited regularly by spotted redshank, green-shank, ruff, garganey, and grebes, and in summer certain birds nest there.

For a quarter of a century it has been shot over by local wild-fowlers, but shooting and egg-collecting are now prohibited, and more birds are expected to use it.

How far do you think lobsters travel?

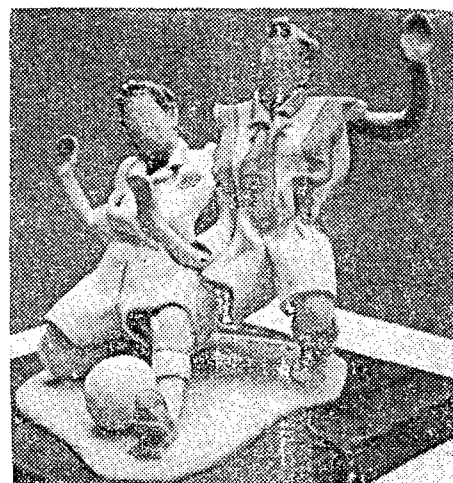
Some experiments in marking lobsters along the Welsh coast have already brought recoveries up to a distance of two miles. At

Continued at foot of next column



## Sculptured sportsmen

The impressive bronze figure of Alec Bedser in action (top left) by David Wynne, was shown at London's Leicester Galleries recently. The carving in wood of a weight-lifter, by H. W. Burt, was in the Guildhall art exhibition. The amusing group in terra-cotta called "Referee's Dilemma" is the work of Mrs. Audrey Blackman, shown at the Royal Institute Galleries.



first the experimenters tagged their lobsters, but now they are tattooing an identity mark on their tails.

A sign of Spring off the Welsh coast is the appearance of the sturdy wooden French crabbers and lobster-boats which set sail in February to visit the rocky seabed off Cornwall and western Wales. Here you may now notice the big foresail, mainsail, and three-cornered mizzen which mark these 50-foot boats carrying nearly 200 wooden lobster-pots. E. H.

Correction: We much regret that in last month's article Thomas Bewick was described as the "famous Scottish bird-artist." He was, in fact, born in Northumberland (in Ovingham parish) and he remained a devoted son of Northumbria all his life.

## WHITE MAN'S MAGIC IN NEW GUINEA

Comparatively little is known about the lives and customs of tribesmen in the mountains of New Guinea, and Australian scientists are going there to study them. Their expedition has been financed by a grant of £4000 made by the Nuffield Foundation.

The scientists particularly want to find out more about the diseases afflicting these out-of-the-way folk, and part of this investigation will be to fly samples of the tribesmen's blood to Sydney. There it will be examined by experts of the blood transfusion service.

With the knowledge thus gained, steps can be taken to prevent the spread of disease among these isolated communities.

## Know what you see

### 6. The village stocks

It was the custom in medieval England for all minor punishments to be carried out on or near the village green, so that the offender and his sentence might be made a public example. Therefore, when a man was found guilty by the local justices, he was clamped for hours on end in the village stocks.

The instrument usually consisted of two stout uprights joined by a plank (cut from the "stock" or trunk of a tree). This plank was split, lengthwise, and fitted with holes just large enough to take a man's ankles. The victim was made to sit on the ground and then the top half of the plank was lifted so that his shins could rest in the semi-circular holes in the lower part. The top half was then dropped into place, and he was held fast.

Stocks are still preserved in about 200 villages. Most were made with two, sometimes three or even more, pairs of leg-holes.



The stocks at Aldbury, Hertfordshire

But Leathley, in Yorkshire, boasts two pairs and a single, the latter for a one-legged captive.

One of the few remaining stocks, made of iron, is at Ninfield, Sussex. But there is another pair, the famous "spectacle" stocks (from their shape) kept against the church at Painswick, Gloucestershire. They were equipped with a seat for the culprit.

Edward III enforced the use of stocks in every village in 1376, the year before he died. This law has never been repealed, although nobody has been actually put in the stocks since 1872.

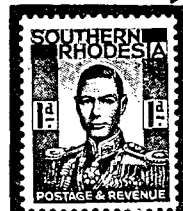
## STAMP ALBUM



THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARY  
March 17  
is  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

ÉIRE COMMEMORATED HER PATRON SAINT ON  
2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s.  
STAMPS ISSUED IN 1927

## START COLLECTING THEM NOW!



ALL STAMPS OF NORTHERN RHODESIA, SOUTHERN RHODESIA AND NYASALAND WILL CEASE TO BE VALID FOR POSTAGE AFTER JULY 1. THEREFORE THEY WILL TEND TO GET SCARCER. ALL THREE TERRITORIES WERE LINKED AS ONE FEDERAL STATE IN 1953, AND FUTURE ISSUES WILL BEAR THE INSCRIPTION SHOWN IN THE LOWER ILLUSTRATION.



? PUZZLE CORNER ?

This stamp comes from—

SERBIA  
HOLLAND  
ALBANIA  
OR ITALY?

Answer next week

Answer to last week's puzzle: HOLLAND



## THE PRINCE OF BEGGARS

March 19 is the centenary of the birth of Lord Knutsford, the man who collected £6,000,000 for good causes, and became known as The Prince of Beggars.

Interested in social causes from a very early age, he may be said to have started his great "begging" career when his concern for the welfare of London dockers led him to take great interest in the affairs of the Poplar Hospital.

As a result of his great work and appeals the hospital was soon in a flourishing state. In 1896 he turned his attentions to the London Hospital, then in a sorry state.

Through his efforts, the London Hospital was almost entirely rebuilt at a cost of £1,000,000, and altogether he raised five times this sum for it.

### HIS EXAMPLE

The secret of his success was that his own goodness brought out the goodness of others.

An example of this was when he took Mr. B. W. Levy to the London Hospital.

Lord Knutsford showed his friend a number of patients who were due to be operated upon, and explained that as there was only one theatre, these poor sufferers would have to wait.

Mr. Levy asked how much another theatre would cost. The answer was £13,000, and he immediately wrote a cheque for this amount, attaching two conditions to his gift: that the operating theatres should be open to men of all creeds, and that his own name should never be mentioned while he lived.

Lord Knutsford continued his wonderful work for the London Hospital until his death in 1931. He was virtually the founder of the modern efficient hospital system. Countless thousands of sick people have had, and still have, cause to bless his name.

GREAT SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY AND ENGLAND CAPTAIN OF THE 1920's, **GEORGE WILSON**, TOOK MANY SOUVENIRS INTO RETIREMENT, INCLUDING 12 INTERNATIONAL CAPS, SIX FOOTBALLS USED IN REPRESENTATIVE SOCCER MATCHES AND THREE PENNIES HE HAD USED AT THE TOSS-UP.

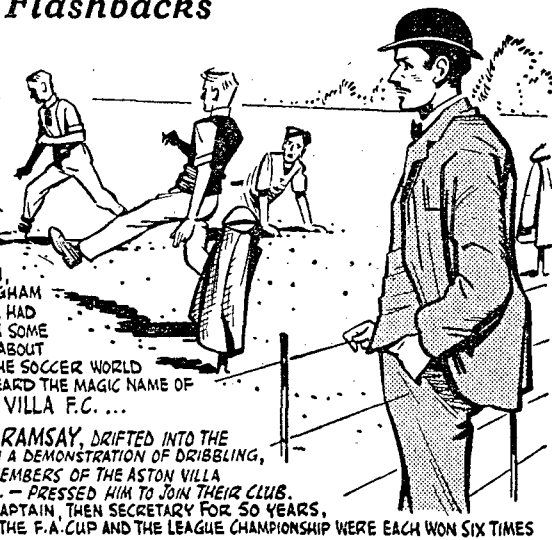


WILSON, SELF-TAUGHT, PRACTISED ON BLACKPOOL SANDS AS A BOY.

OF A YOUNG SCOTSMAN, WALKING IN A BIRMINGHAM PARK ONE DAY IN 1876, HAD NOT PAUSED TO WATCH SOME LADS KICKING A BALL ABOUT RATHER AIMLESSLY, THE SOCCER WORLD MIGHT NEVER HAVE HEARD THE MAGIC NAME OF **ASTON VILLA F.C.**...

THE SCOT, **GEORGE RAMSAY**, DRIFTED INTO THE GAME AND GAVE SUCH A DEMONSTRATION OF DRIBBLING, THAT THE YOUTHS - MEMBERS OF THE ASTON VILLA WESLEYAN CHAPEL F.C. - PRESSED HIM TO JOIN THEIR CLUB. RAMSAY BECAME CAPTAIN, THEN SECRETARY FOR 50 YEARS, DURING WHICH PERIOD THE F.A. CUP AND THE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP WERE EACH WON SIX TIMES.

## Sporting Flashbacks



## 50 YEARS OF SERVICE, ON THE HIGHWAYS

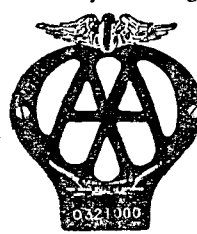
The Automobile Association, pioneer motoring organisation, celebrates its jubilee this year.

When the A.A. was founded in 1905, there was a speed limit of 20 m.p.h. and police hid in hedge-rows and ditches to time motorists for speeding. The job of the first A.A. bicycle-mounted patrols—recruited from Fleet Street paper boys—was to spot these "traps" and warn approaching members. Later patrols were trained to help motorists in trouble, which so often happened in those days.

As part of the jubilee celebrations, the A.A. is re-enacting an incident which took place in 1909. Some of the earliest members persuaded the War Office that their new-fangled machines could be

used for transporting troops. Using their own cars, and at their own expense, they moved an entire battalion of Guards from the Crystal Palace to Hastings.

On March 19, 100 officers and men, dressed in the uniforms then worn by the Brigade of Guards,



will leave the R A F Station at Kidbrooke Park Road, South London, in 1909 vintage cars, and will then drive to the coast at Hastings. The route will be along the Sidcup and Orpington by-passes and on to the A.21 road to Hastings. Mr. F. S. Bennett, who drove the leading car in the 1909 trial, will again be in the leading car.

From the days when the Association had 90 members and a borrowed typewriter in a Fleet Street solicitor's office, the A.A. has grown into the world's largest motoring organisation, with 1,500,000 members.

The familiar black and yellow motor-cycle patrols are seen all

over the country, ready to help and guide members. The Association also provides home and foreign touring facilities, maps, routes, hotel guides, and in some areas, a radio-controlled breakdown service.

During the war, the A.A. did valuable work in signposting and routing convoys.

Some of the patrol men have been with the Association since its earliest days and have seen cars progress from the brass-and-mahogany era to present-day chromium-plated limousines. But whatever and wherever members are driving they can all be sure of the same cheery salute and the same prompt and courteous service.

### BATHROOM NOT WANTED

Among newcomers to New Zealand are Finnish workers in the paper-milling towns of North Island. The Finns refuse to use ordinary bathrooms, and insist on their own sauna, a homely form of steam bath used in Finland.

The New Zealanders decided to try the idea. Now it has become so popular that the sauna is replacing ordinary bathrooms.

The Children's Newspaper, March 19, 1955

## BACK TO THE SILENT FILM

The Biograph in Wilton Street, Pimlico (near London's Victoria Station) is the oldest surviving cinema in Britain to be specially built for the purpose. It has celebrated its fiftieth birthday with a week's programmes of early silent films.

This little Edwardian building is structurally the same as when it was first opened in 1905. But seats have replaced the wooden forms, a wide screen the first narrow one, and electric lighting has ousted the fish-tail gas jets. A pianist returned, however, for the recent silent film show to provide the familiar background which old patrons remember so well.

### PATRON FOR 50 YEARS

This little cinema is quite an institution in this part of London. Many residents have been going to it all their lives. In fact, an old lady of 82 attended the Jubilee. She has been a regular patron for 50 years, reaching it by horse bus in the early days. She thinks the old silent films made more appeal to the imagination than the modern ones.

Two of the films shown recently dated from 1896: The Vanishing Lady, a trick film, and Indiarubber Head, a comedy.

Youngsters at this silent show must have been surprised at the request to the audience not to read the captions aloud—a habit that used to annoy many cinemagoers.

Altogether, it was a most interesting jubilee, a reminder that "going to the pictures" has now been popular since grandpa was a boy.

### EXTINCT BIRD FOUND

A New Zealand bird thought to have become extinct has recently been discovered on South Cape Island by an expedition led by the Director of Wellington Museum. It is the saddleback, like a starling except that it has a chestnut saddle on its back and bright orange wattles below its beak.

## THE INVISIBLE MAN—new picture-version of H. G. Wells's scientific fantasy (9)



It was no "runaway ring" that had caused Dr. Kemp's maid to open his front door. He went to his bedroom and saw what seemed to be an empty bandage floating in the air—the Invisible Man's wrist had been grazed by one of the American's bullets at the inn. The Doctor heard a voice say, "Kemp, you know me." The "Invisible Man" story he had ridiculed rushed through his brain. Then he recoiled at the touch of unseen fingers.



A hand gripped his arm. He struggled and was thrown on the bed and held down. "Lie still, you fool!" hissed the voice, "this is no magic. I don't want to hurt you, and I want your help. Don't you remember me—Griffin of University College? I am just an ordinary man—a man you have known—made invisible." Dr. Kemp, feeling that he must have been hypnotised by some visible person, lay still. The voice asked for a dressing gown.



Dr. Kemp, released, took a dressing gown from his wardrobe and, unable to believe his eyes, watched it flutter, fasten itself, and then sit down! "I demonstrated conclusively this morning that invisibility..." he began. "Never mind what you demonstrated, I'm starving," cut in the voice. Kemp went downstairs and brought up cutlets and bread on a tray. The headless, handless dressing gown fell to ravenously.



When the Invisible Man had eaten heartily, he asked for a cigar. Dr. Kemp was held fascinated by the strange sight of him smoking; his mouth and throat, and nasal passages, became visible as a sort of whirling smoke cast. He said that he had intended to escape from the country—fully clothed and muffled—to a warmer clime, but that Marvel the tramp—"the cur"—had run off with all the money he had collected, and with his books.

How can Dr. Kemp deal with his most unwelcome visitor? See next week's instalment



Follow the fortunes of the Radio schoolboy

# OUR FRIEND JENNINGS

By Anthony Buckeridge

Jennings and Darbishire write a play which they are hoping to perform at the school concert some weeks ahead. Mr. Carter refused to allow his starting pistol to be used as a stage property, and the first rehearsal ends in chaos and confusion.

## 13. Half-term

As half-term approached, Jennings and Darbishire found it more and more difficult to gather their cast together for rehearsals; for by now there seemed to be so many out-of-school activities to be crowded into the boys' few hours of leisure.

"I reckon we'll have to put The Mysterious Miser into cold storage until after next week," Jennings confided to his friend on the eve of the half-term break. "Everyone's getting so excited about going out with their parents that they can't think about anything else."

Darbishire nodded sadly. He had heard that morning that his father and mother would be unable to come down to visit him, and a dull ache of disappointment had been depressing his spirits ever since. "I suppose you'll be going out with your people, too, won't you?" he said, trying hard to keep a note of envy from his voice.

## The martyr

"Yes, I'm expecting my Uncle Arthur to come and take me out on Saturday," Jennings answered. "And do you know what I'm going to have to eat? I shall start off with baked beans on toast, followed by steak and kidney pudding, followed by fruit salad, followed by more baked beans on toast. And after that I shall have some—"

He broke off at the sight of his

friend's woebegone expression and asked: "Well, why not? What are you looking so fossilised about?"

"Oh, nothing. Please don't bother about me," Darbishire said, in martyred tones. "I shall be quite happy sitting here all alone, thinking of you sitting there stuffing yourself with baked beans and stuff, and not giving a thought to me sitting here thinking about you sitting there—"

Jennings looked puzzled. "But you're going out, too, aren't you?"

The patient martyr shook his head. "No, but it doesn't matter. My father says that suffering and self-sacrifice brings out noble qualities in people. I expect I shall get used to it after the first hour or so."

Impulsively Jennings burst out: "Look here, why don't you come out with me? I'm sure Uncle Arthur won't mind."

The woebegone look faded from Darbishire's eyes and was replaced by a sparkle of gratitude. "Coo! Can I really? That's jolly decent of you, Jen."

## Unpopular rule

"Unless, of course, you'd rather stay and practise feeling noble, like your father said."

"Oh, no," said Darbishire hastily. "After all, I can do my suffering any time, can't I?"

By midday on Saturday most of the parents had already arrived and taken their sons off to lunch in the neighbouring town of Dun-hambury. Before they left, the boys were reminded of the school rule that they were not allowed to visit the cinema, or any crowded place where there was a danger that they might, by chance, pick up some stray germ of 'flu or measles.

The rule, though not popular with the boys, was always faithfully observed, for by way of compensation it was customary for the whole school to be given some special treat on the following Monday when all the parents had departed.

"I bet it'll be a mouldy sort of treat this time—a visit to the gas works, or something chronic," said Jennings, turning away from the common-room window and glancing anxiously at the clock. For the past hour he had been watching the comings and goings of parents and boys with mounting impatience. Now, everyone but he and Darbishire had been called for: it was getting on for lunch-time and there was still no sign of Uncle Arthur.

Presently Darbishire said: "I suppose your uncle is coming, Jen. What time did he say in his letter?"

## Optimism

"Well, actually I haven't heard from him lately," Jennings confessed. "But you needn't worry, Darbi, he always comes down at half-term. At least, he does sometimes."

Darbishire seized upon the weak spot in his friend's optimism.

"Sometimes!" he echoed aghast. "You mean you've got nothing in black and white to prove he's coming at all?"

"No, not exactly, but—"

"Yes, but supposing he *doesn't* come!" Darbishire leapt to his feet and stared at his friend in wide-eyed consternation. "Dash it all, Jen, if you're not even sure you're going, you had no right to ask me to come, too. It's a mouldy trick, letting me down like that, when I've been counting on it!"

Jennings was shocked by this display of ingratitude. "Well, I like that! You're no worse off than you were before, even if he doesn't come. You said you'd be happy to stay behind and suffer!"

## Derision

"Ah, but that was only when I thought I'd have to, anyway," Darbishire defended himself. "You can't expect me to go on feeling noble when you offer me baked beans on toast with one hand, and then turn round and tell me it's all off, with the other."

"I didn't say it was all off!" Jennings retorted heatedly. "I said I'm expecting my uncle, and if he comes—"

"If! If! If!" Darbishire shouted in derision. "I wish I'd never accepted your gruesome invitation! You can keep your mouldy baked beans, and I hope they choke you!"

"And I wish I'd never invited you. You can jolly well get on with your suffering by yourself another time, and I hope it keeps fine for you!"

Flushed with anger, they stood shouting at each other across the common-room table, their voices rising to shrill squawks of indignation. So loud was the argument that neither of them heard the door open a few minutes later, as Mr. Carter came into the room.

"What on earth is going on here!" the master demanded.

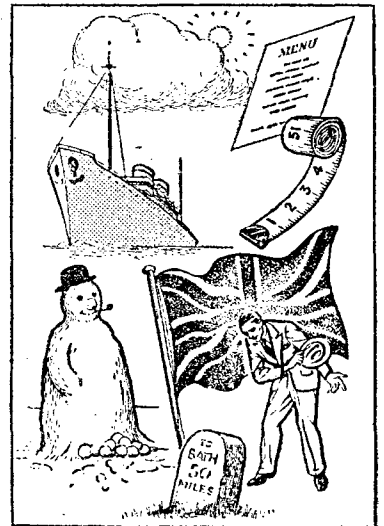
Continued on page 10

# The OVALTINEYS' own 'Puzzle Corner'



Can you spot the 4 different pairs?

In this puzzle two things have the same name; two are made of the same material; two are the same shape; and two are used for the same purpose.



OVALTINEYS are among the brightest and happiest of children. They know that 'Ovaltine' is a delicious, appetizing drink and make it a golden rule to drink this nourishing beverage every day. It is delightful with any meal and is a favourite bedtime drink with thousands of Ovaltineys. It helps to keep them strong and full of energy.

EVERY BOY AND GIRL SHOULD JOIN THE LEAGUE OF OVALTINEYS

Members of the League of Ovaltineys have great fun with the secret high-signs, signals and code. You can join the League and obtain your badge and the Official Rule Book (which also contains the words and music of the Ovaltiney songs), by sending a label from a tin of 'Ovaltine' with your full name, address and age to: THE CHIEF OVALTINEY (Dept. D), 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

# OVALTINE

The World's Most Popular Food Beverage

Turn this upside down to find the correct answers.

1. How (of ship) and Bow (of man).
2. Cloud and Snowman (both made of water).
3. Menu-card and Flag (both are rectangular).
4. Tape-measure and Mile-stone (both are used to measure distances).

FIRST-RATE BOOKS FOR BOYS & GIRLS AT A TRULY WONDERFUL MONEY-SAVING PRICE!

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I wish to join the Children's Book Club, and agree to purchase the book issued each month to members at a cost of 3s. 6d. (postage 6d.). I agree to continue my membership for a minimum of six books and thereafter until countermanded.

☐ \* I will pay for selections on receipt. Children's Newspaper/Mar. '55.

☐ \* I enclose 24s. for 6 months' subscription.

\* Place ✓ in the space above as required.

Name.....

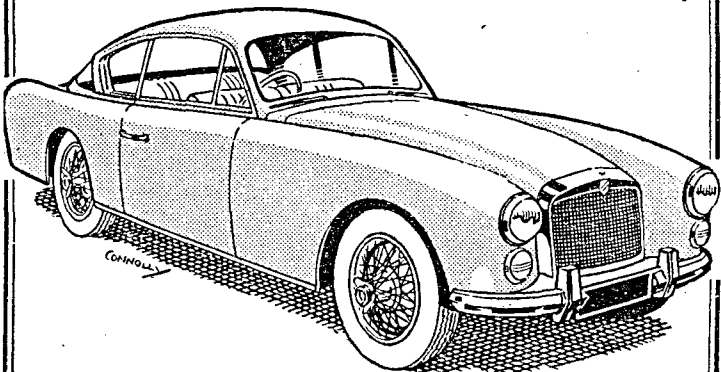
BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

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# SPORTS CARS OF THE WORLD

A series of forty



## 5. Talbot (French)

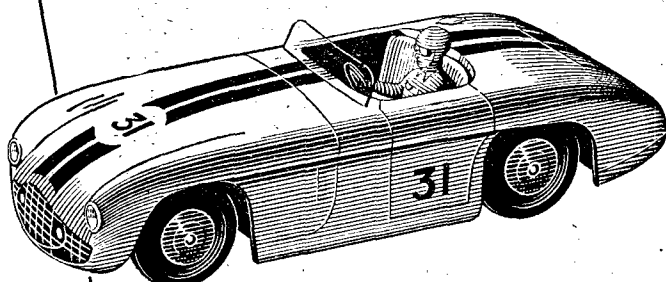
AFTER the Sunbeam, Talbot, Darracq Company dissolved some years ago, the Talbot car was made in France on its own. The company's racing cars were quite successful after the last war, and the

car shown here is built on the chassis famous as the Talbot Lago. Its 4½-litre, six-cylinder engine gives a speed of 110 m.p.h., although in racing trim it would easily do 130-135 m.p.h. This is the only sports car made entirely in France



## New this month!

### DINKY TOYS No. 133 CUNNINGHAM C-5R ROAD RACER



#### A famous American competitor

Streamlined for speed and beauty. With little imagination you are the helmeted racing driver behind the swept-curve windshield. Smooth, sleek, modern styling captured by accurate modelling. Enamelled white with blue markings.

Length 4" Price 4/3 (including Tax)

### DINKY TOYS GIFT SET No. 699 MILITARY VEHICLES (I)

Four of the popular Dinky Toys military vehicles are now available as a set in a colourful presentation box. The group consists of Austin Champ, 1-ton Cargo Truck, Armoured Personnel Carrier and 3-ton Army Wagon. Price 17/6 (incl. Tax)

Keep on  
collecting

## DINKY TOYS

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**NOTHING TO DECLARE** BUT THAT'S A NEWMARK IT'S ENGLISH MADE

CUSTOMS: MY STUDENTS HAVE NOTHING TO DECLARE

THAT'S AMAZING I MUST GET ONE MYSELF

WHAT ABOUT THAT WATCH?

Model 1707 jewelled movement 69/6

UNBREAKABLE GLASS IN CHROME OR GOLDEN FINISH

At leading jewellers everywhere

**36/9 to 5 Gns.**

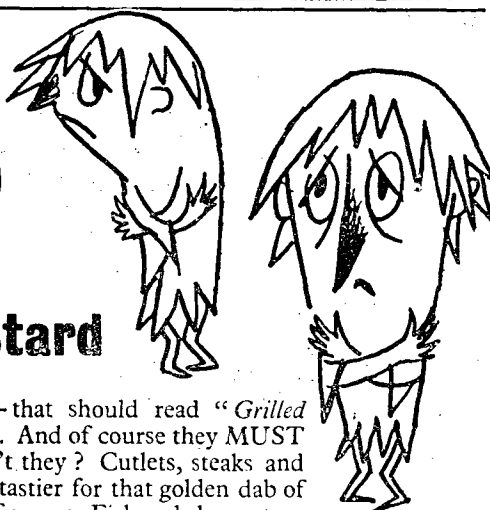
Jewelled movement models from 59/6

**ENGLISH MADE UNCONDITIONALLY GUARANTEED**

Write for free full colour catalogue and name and address of nearest retailer to Louis Newmark Ltd., Purley Way, Croydon

## CHILLED GROPS need mustard

No, no, no!—that should read "Grilled Chops need Mustard". And of course they MUST have mustard mustn't they? Cutlets, steaks and all kinds of meat are tastier for that golden dab of mustard—Colman's of course. Fish and cheese, too. The password is: "MASS THE PUSTARD, PLEASE"



## OUR FRIEND JENNINGS

Continued from page 9

The shouting ceased and gave place to mumbled apologies.

"Sorry, sir."

"So I should think," said Mr. Carter. "Your uncle's arrived, Jennings. He's waiting for you in the library."

Jennings' face lit up in triumph. "Oh good, sir!" he exclaimed excitedly. "There you are, Darbi, I knew he'd come. I told you so."

Darbishire bit his lip and said nothing. Finally he muttered: "Good-bye, Jen. Hope you have a decent time."

Jennings looked surprised. "But aren't you coming, too?"

"You said I wasn't to. You said you wouldn't invite me any more."

"Oh, don't talk such dehydrated eyewash," Jennings answered impatiently. "Of course you're coming! Hurry up and get ready."

### Enormous lunch

Jennings was fond of his Uncle Arthur, a brisk and jovial relative whose only fault was that he had too little time to spare for entertaining his nephew. He was delighted to include Darbishire in the party, and treated the boys to an enormous lunch at an hotel in Dunhambury.

At last, when the boys had eaten so much that they could not find room for another baked bean, Uncle Arthur glanced at his watch and said: "I'm afraid I shall have to leave you to amuse yourselves for the rest of the afternoon. I've got to catch the three o'clock train back to London."

This was news to Jennings. "But we're not supposed to go back to school till tea-time," he said.

Uncle Arthur glanced out of the window. A fine drizzle which had been persisting all morning had now turned into a downpour.

"Well, you can't hang about in the streets in this weather," he observed. He frowned in thought for a moment, and then his face lit up with inspiration. "Ah! I have it—the very thing! Get your coats on quickly, I'll just have time to take you before my train goes."

He paid the bill and led the way out of the hotel and along the High Street. The boys followed, splashing their way through the puddles on the pavement, and wondering what Uncle Arthur had in mind.

### Dilemma

They soon found out. Half-way down the street glowed the neon lights of the Empire Cinema, where highly-coloured posters of cowboys on horseback announced that the stirring story of Panama Pete of Dead Man's Gulch was now showing.

Uncle Arthur hustled the boys into the cinema entrance. "Here we are. The very place for a wet afternoon!" he exclaimed. "Wait while I get you a couple of tickets."

Jennings and Darbishire stared at him in sudden dismay. Go to the pictures! Didn't he know that the cinema was strictly out of bounds!

To be continued



### For the benefit of poor sailors

This workman is busy inside one of the two giant stabiliser fins that are being fitted on each side of the liner Queen Elizabeth at Southampton. Gyroscopically controlled, they will reduce her roll in rough seas—a welcome feature for bad sailors in the world's biggest liner.

## Letter from a little Princess

A letter written in 1804 by a Royal princess who, had she lived, would have been Queen of England instead of Victoria, has been given to the London Museum by a private donor.

It was written, at the age of eight, by Princess Charlotte, daughter of George IV, to her mother, Queen Caroline, and is one of the few known examples of her childhood letters. It dates from the time when her father was still Prince of Wales.

The letter is in large, almost perfectly-formed, handwriting and reads:

O my dear Mama, how happy your letter has made me; I hardly know which delights me

most, to think you are come back safe and well; or that I shall see you so soon. But I must tell you I have the hooping cough, and I know not whether you have ever had it.

I am my dear Mama

Your ever Affte and Dutiful Daughter

CHARLOTTE

Princess Charlotte of Wales died at the age of 21 in childbirth and her baby son was stillborn. Her husband was Prince Leopold who later became King of the Belgians. She was very popular and her untimely death caused nation-wide consternation and anger at what was thought to be neglect on the part of her physicians.

## Keep in step with GENERAL KNOWLEDGE!



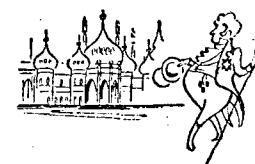
1 Why do we follow the old rule-of-the-road and 'keep to the left'? Is it because (a) it was considered lucky, (b) swords were worn on the left, (c) King John decreed it?

2 Are there any pneumatic tyres you can hammer nails into without deflating them?

3 Is the "Tour de France" (a) the tower of Chartres cathedral, (b) a holiday in Paris, (c) a cycle race round France?

4 Are Dunlop tyres made (a) only in Great Britain, (b) only in the Commonwealth, (c) in every continent in the world?

5 What was the "Royal Progress"? (a) the State opening of Parliament, (b) the Prince Regent's career, (c) a tour through the Kingdom by the reigning Monarch?



### The DUNLOP cadet knows all the answers

Elizabeth II.  
extended throughout the Commonwealth by  
4 (c), 5 (c), 6 (c), 7 (c), 8 (c), 9 (c), 10 (c), 11 (c), 12 (c), 13 (c), 14 (c), 15 (c), 16 (c), 17 (c), 18 (c), 19 (c), 20 (c), 21 (c), 22 (c), 23 (c), 24 (c), 25 (c), 26 (c), 27 (c), 28 (c), 29 (c), 30 (c), 31 (c), 32 (c), 33 (c), 34 (c), 35 (c), 36 (c), 37 (c), 38 (c), 39 (c), 40 (c), 41 (c), 42 (c), 43 (c), 44 (c), 45 (c), 46 (c), 47 (c), 48 (c), 49 (c), 50 (c), 51 (c), 52 (c), 53 (c), 54 (c), 55 (c), 56 (c), 57 (c), 58 (c), 59 (c), 60 (c), 61 (c), 62 (c), 63 (c), 64 (c), 65 (c), 66 (c), 67 (c), 68 (c), 69 (c), 70 (c), 71 (c), 72 (c), 73 (c), 74 (c), 75 (c), 76 (c), 77 (c), 78 (c), 79 (c), 80 (c), 81 (c), 82 (c), 83 (c), 84 (c), 85 (c), 86 (c), 87 (c), 88 (c), 89 (c), 90 (c), 91 (c), 92 (c), 93 (c), 94 (c), 95 (c), 96 (c), 97 (c), 98 (c), 99 (c), 100 (c).

SCORING: 10 marks for every correct answer. 50—top of the class. 30-40—good. Below 30—Smarten up there!



# CN BOOKSHELF

## PACIFIC ADVENTURE

*A Pattern of Islands*, by Sir Arthur Grimble. Junior Edition (John Murray, 6s.)

A FASCINATING account of life in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, written by a distinguished member of the Colonial Service who was for some years District Officer of this outpost of Empire, far away in the Central Pacific. With gusto and humour, Sir Arthur recounts his varied experiences while getting to know the gay, cheerful islanders and their strange ways. The original edition of his book was a best-seller; this junior edition merits a like success.

## DETERMINED TO DANCE

*Dancing Peel*, by Lorna Hill (Nelson, 8s. 6d.)

HERE is the tale of a brother and sister who were determined to become professional dancers. Holidays and weekends are spent at home in an old peel tower near the Border, but they go to school and learn dancing in Newcastle. They have exciting times in their wild moorland home but never lose sight of their ambition and, between one interest and the other, there is never a dull moment.

## BELOW THE THAMES

*Bridge Under the Water*, by Laurence Meynell (Phoenix, 8s. 6d.)

HERE a master yarn-spinner weaves into the true story of Isambard Brunel and the first Thames tunnel the tale of an imaginary lad, Tom Dewley, who worked with the great engineer. Tom was an orphan lad living with an unkind uncle and aunt. The account of his escape, meeting with Brunel, and experiences below the bed of the Thames is an attractive blending of fact and fiction.

## HAPPY ENDINGS

*John and Mary's Fairy Tales*, by Grace James (Frederick Muller, 9s. 6d.)

SYMPATHY for the wicked sisters in Cinderella seems a startling idea, but John and Mary, nevertheless, have this feeling. So in this entertaining book their stately Victorian Aunt Prendergast supplies a brief sequel to the ancient story in which justice is tempered with mercy. There are several other such original notions in these stories, which lovers of the John and Mary books will not want to miss.

## GAME OF KINGS

*John and the Chess Men*, by Helen Weissenstein (Phoenix, 9s. 6d.)

THERE'S nothing like a game of chess for a rainy day, once you have seen the fascination of the game. John, temporarily in bed after an accident, is converted to the game and taught the moves by two young enthusiasts from next door. Here you enjoy a good yarn and learn the game at the same time.

## AMATEUR DRAMATICS

*Behind the Footlights*, by Martha Alexander (John Murray, 9s. 6d.)

ROY and Doris decided to form their own amateur dramatic society and repair a derelict parish hall for a theatre. Following their adventures we learn how they form a committee, plan out a stage, choose a play, and tackle the problems of lighting, make-up, and rehearsal. The author has practical experience, and all who are interested in dramatics will be gripped by her story and the clever idea behind it.

## LAND OF MYSTERY

*The Stranger*, by Stella Weaver (Collins, 8s. 6d.)

UNUSUAL characters in wild surroundings are still to be found in out-of-the-way parts of Ireland. To one of these Stella Weaver takes us in this well-told yarn to share mystery and thrills amid mountain, lough, and bog.

## MEET THE AFRICANS

*People of the Sun*, by Richard Ogle (Pitman, 8s. 6d.)

HERE is a delightful little book, illustrated by the author, which tells of the way of life of the coloured peoples—Zulu, Bantu, Swazi, Basuto, and the little-known Venda—of southern Africa. It tells, too, of gold-miners and folk-dancers, of witch-doctors and Black Magic, of rain-making, and of the days when the white man was probing into the heart of the Dark Continent.

## DETECTIVE WITH A SPADE

*Down to Earth*, by Robin Place (Rockliff, 16s.)

ARCHAEOLOGISTS, like detectives, must be able to recognise a clue when they find one, and know what it means. This absorbing book shows what exciting things there are to know and do in hunting traces of early man. There are plenty of pictures and diagrams and good hints on how to set about a "dig."

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

TEACH YOURSELF TO STUDY ART, by D. Talbot Rice (English Universities Press, 6s.)

POCKET GUIDE TO NESTS AND EGGS, by R. S. R. Fitter and R. A. Richardson (Collins, 21s.)

COME GLIDING WITH ME, by Ann C. Welch (Muller, 9s. 6d.)

SARAH JOINS THE W.R.A.F., by Shirley Darbyshire (Bodley Head, 7s. 6d.)

CLOUDS, RINGS, AND CROCODILES—By Space-ship round the Planets, by H. Percy Wilkins (Harrap, 7s. 6d.)

FLYING MODEL AIRCRAFT, by D. J. Laidlaw-Dickson (Muller, 6s.)

ROSS SALMON'S COWBOY BOOK (Nelson, 10s. 6d.)

## WONDERFUL NATURE

*The Living Desert* (Rathbone Books, 8s. 6d.)

THIS book is based on the narrative which accompanied Walt Disney's wonderful Nature film, *The Living Desert*. Those who saw this film, no less than those who missed it, will enjoy this fine picture-book of the strange ways of plants and creatures—and of their struggle for survival—in the sandy wastes scorched by the sun.

## ADVENTURE-SEEKING DOLL

*Impunity Jane*, by Rumer Godden, illustrated by Adrienne Adams (Macmillan, 7s. 6d.)

THOUGH dolls cannot talk they have feelings which they can communicate to suitably sympathetic children. Such is the theme of this charming little story of a doll who wanted an adventurous life.

## ALASKA FAIRY TALES

*The Medicine Men of Hooper Bay*, by Charles E. Gillham (Batchworth, 8s. 6d.)

ONLY in comparatively recent years has the white man lived among the Eskimos of Alaska, and few of us know much about them. These folk-tales, some happy, some sad, reveal them to be a cheerful, kindly, superstitious race, whose religion is closely linked with Nature.



## Party spirit

This is one of the many jolly illustrations by Doritie Kettlewell in *Party Games for Young Children*, by Jayne Grey (Ward Lock, 6s.)

## WILD HORSE

*The White Stallion*, by Albert Lamorisse (Putnam, 8s. 6d.)

SHOTS from a famous French film, *Crin Blanc* (White Mane), have been put together to make a magnificent picture-book with a short narrative called *The White Stallion*. It tells how the leader of a herd of wild horses, in the marshy wastes of the Rhone delta, is captured by the ranger and his men who wish to break him in.

The white horse temporarily escapes but is found and sheltered by Falco, a fisher boy. A final tremendous chase follows, ending with the great horse swimming with his first and only rider to an island "where children and horses are friends for ever."

## HE GAVE US ELECTRICITY

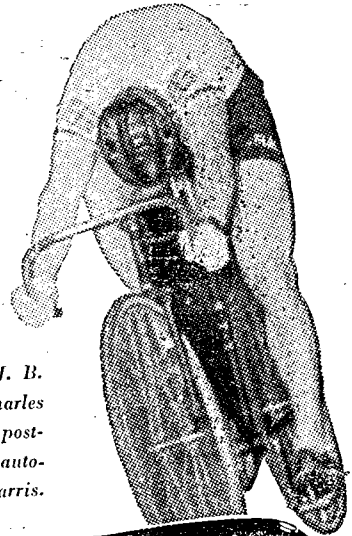
*Michael Faraday*, by James Kendall (Faber and Faber, 12s. 6d.)

IT was Sir William Bragg who said: "Prometheus, they say, brought fire to the service of mankind: electricity we owe to Faraday." In this book a distinguished scientist of our time, Professor James Kendall, has written for young people the story of the great but simple man who started his working life by delivering newspapers, and lived to become the Father of Electricity. An enthralling true story, finely told!

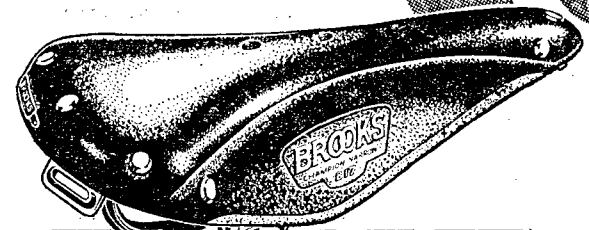
## It's my choice every time says REG HARRIS...

(WORLD'S PROFESSIONAL SPRINT CHAMPION)

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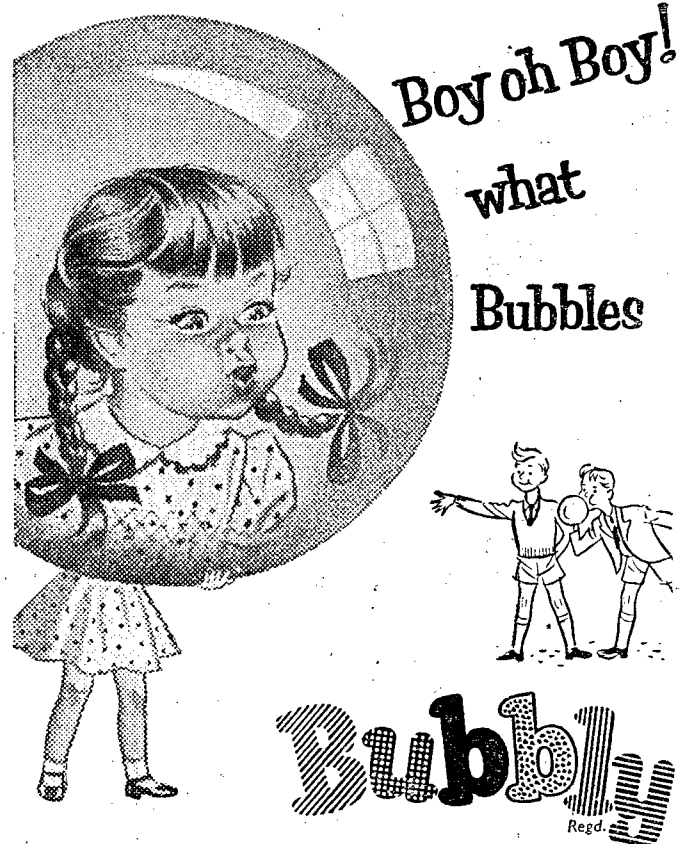


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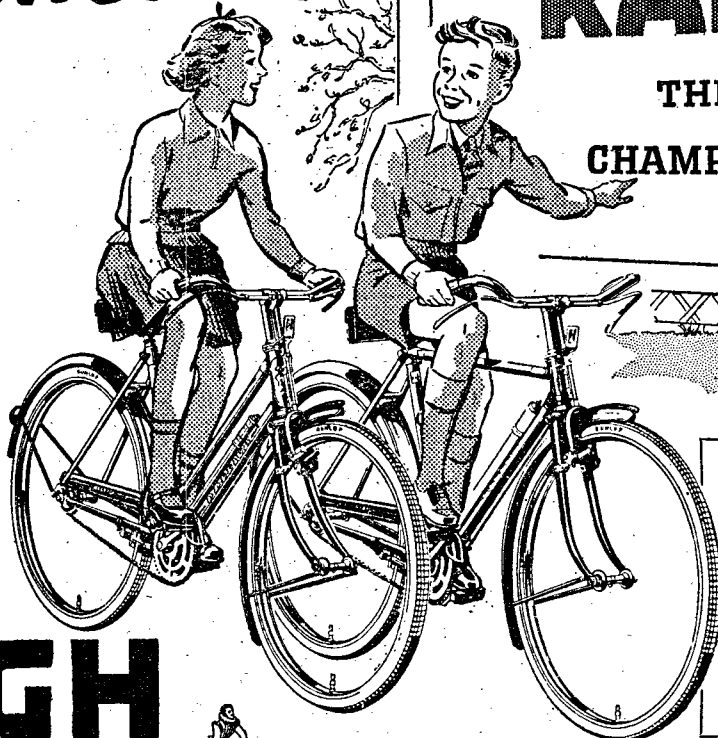


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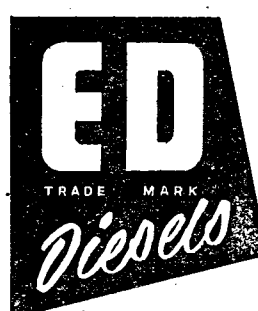
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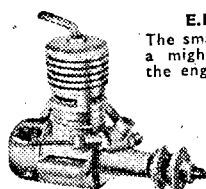
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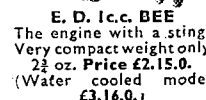


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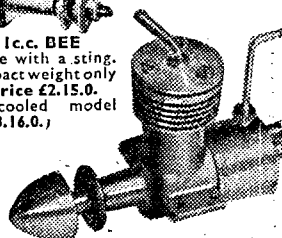
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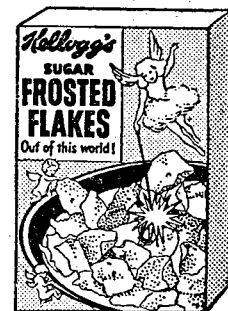
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# SPORTS SHORTS

**TWICKENHAM** is certain to have a capacity crowd on Saturday for the Rugby international between England and Scotland. If the Scots win (which they have not done at Twickenham since 1938) they will gain two "trophies"—the Calcutta Cup and the Triple Crown, for they have already won their matches this season against Ireland and Wales. They will certainly be favourites, because the Englishmen have yet to win a match in this season's international championships.

**PAT CRAWFORD**, 21-year-old New South Wales fast bowler who is considered to be the probable successor to Ray Lindwall, will be playing this summer for East Lancashire in Lancashire League cricket. Pat, who is six feet two inches, is an X-ray technician in the Sydney Children's Hospital.

## Skating partnership



At the Richmond Ice Rink 15-year-old John Pearce of Richmond, and 13-year-old Lesley Norfolk of Teddington are training as partners. They have been practising together for 12 months.

**ENGLAND'S** table tennis selectors have chosen two of our best young players for the Swaythling Cup team to compete in the world championships at Utrecht next month. They are 20-year-old Bryan Merrett, of Gloucester, and 22-year-old Alan Rhodes, the Middlesex left-hander. Their teammates are Richard Bergmann, Johnny Leach, and Brian Kennedy.

## Point of view

"**WE** keep fit to play Rugby, and in the British Isles they play Rugby to keep fit." So writes the famous New Zealand full-back Bob Scott in his newly-published book, Bob Scott on Rugby.

**OWING** to the many records set up during the past two years, the A.A.A. have revised many of the times and distances for which standard medals are awarded. Here are just a few. The 440 yards has been reduced from 51 seconds to 50 seconds, and the six miles time has been lowered by one whole minute (from 31 to 30). The Marathon time has been reduced by three minutes to two hours 42 minutes. These new standard times should make competition even keener during the coming athletics season.

**AMONG** the 18 players chosen by the Football Association to tour the West Indies during May and June are two well-known amateurs, Harry Sharratt, Bishop Auckland's schoolmaster goalkeeper, and Ron Heckman, the Bromley inside-forward.

## Cricketing family

**SOME** months ago CN mentioned the likelihood of 17-year-old Norfolk cricketer John Edrich moving up into County cricket circles; and now comes news that this brilliant young left-hander will shortly join the Surrey ground staff at the Oval. He thus becomes the fifth member of his family to play for first-class counties, following his cousins—Bill (Middlesex); Geoffrey (Lancashire); Brian (Glamorgan); and Eric, who played for Lancashire before going to New Zealand. All played for Bracondale School, Norwich.

**NEXT** Monday the finals of the Schools Amateur Boxing Association's Championships are being held at the Royal Albert Hall. Every year for the past six years the boys of the William Blake School, Battersea, have won one title—and the Gold Star that goes with it—and this year they are hoping to do even better.

## Like father—like daughter

**SOME** years ago, the Australian men's diving champion was Harry Tickle. Recently, his 16-year-old daughter Beverley won the Australian women's highboard championship, beating Barbara Macauley, the Empire Games champion. Beverley took up diving as part of her recuperative treatment following polio.

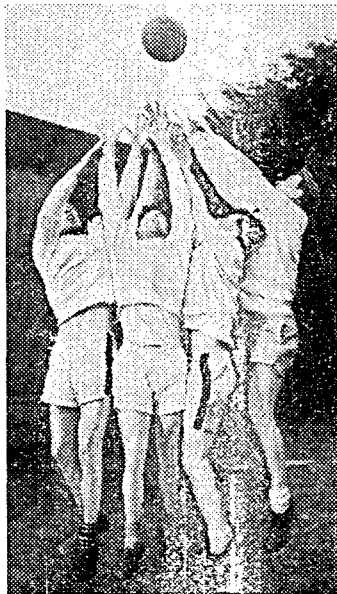
**ADRIAN** QUIST won the Wimbledon doubles title in 1935 and again in 1950—the longest gap between successes in the history of Wimbledon. This year we may see him on the tennis courts again for he will be coming to England as tour manager of the Australian women's tennis team.

**JOHN** DAVIES was one of Britain's finest swimmers until he emigrated to New Zealand in 1951. Now, at the age of 43, he has just won the New Zealand 100 yards butterfly championship in 60.4 seconds.



**THE** Varsity Boat Race course from Putney to Mortlake may be a little "over-crowded" on Saturday when the Head of the River races are held. There is an entry of 230 eights.

## Light Blues limber up



Four of the Cambridge crew get in some ball exercise as part of their training for the Boat Race on March 26. The Light Blues' Eight is likely to be their heaviest ever to row against Oxford.

**SINCE** he went to Michigan University in 1952, Jack Wardrop of Motherwell has developed into probably the finest all-round swimmer in the world. Last year he set a new world time for the 440 yards medley (back-stroke, breast-stroke, butterfly, and free-style) and recently he broke the world 220 yards free-style record in 2 minutes 3.4 seconds.

## Soccer holiday

**DURING** the Easter holidays a German Youth Soccer team from Westphalia will be visiting Yorkshire. On Good Friday they will play a side chosen by the Yorkshire Association of Boys' Clubs at Frickley, and on Easter Monday they will meet a team representing the West Riding Youth Council on the Huddersfield Town ground.

**THE** Texas Open Golf Tournament was won recently by M. Souchak with a total of 257, believed to be the lowest score ever returned for 72 holes. His scores were 60, 68, 64, 65.

## Running on the round

**TRAIN** while you work would appear to be the maxim of David Stephens of Melbourne, who keeps fit on his milk rounds by running from point to point. This method is obviously a good one, for in the past few months David has broken the Australian two, three, and six-mile track records.

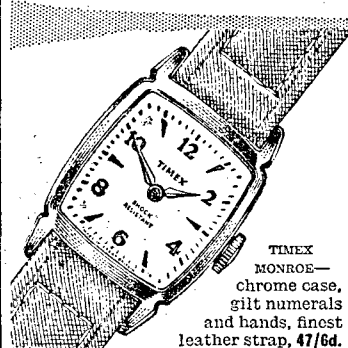
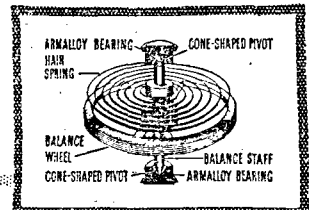
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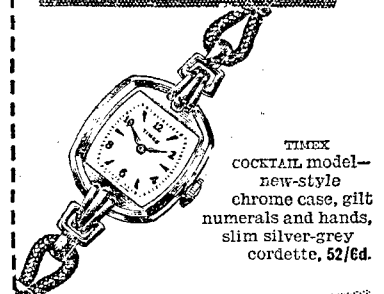
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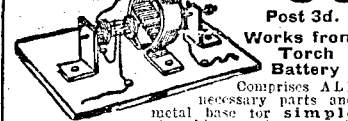


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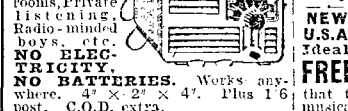


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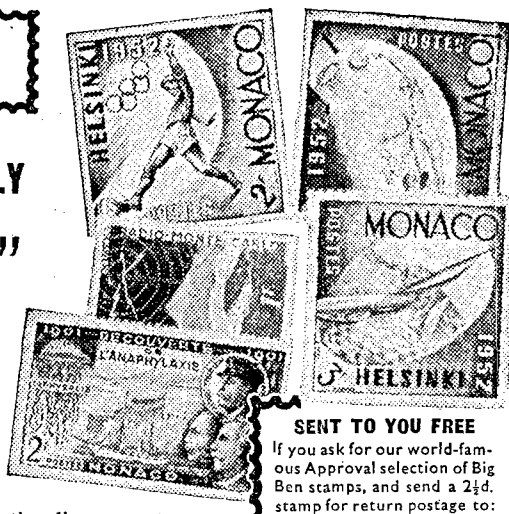
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## ZOO NEWS

# PAIGNTON PREPARES FOR A RECORD YEAR

SINCE I last wrote in these columns, almost a year ago, concerning events at Paignton Zoo, public interest in this zoo has grown apace. During the past 12 months it had over 270,000 visitors, a record. Records, however, are made to be broken, and the authorities at Paignton have every hope that 1955 will see an even higher "gate."

Not the least of the coming season's special attractions will be some interesting baby animals bred recently in the grounds. Among these are a young leopard named Philip, four Husky dogs, two coatimundis, two drills named Sunday and Monday (because they were born on those days), and a rare Pekin robin named Chink.

## IDEAL PARENTS

"There were no fewer than seven puppies in the Husky litter, which was born in December to Rex and Rexina," said Mr. Kenneth Smith, Paignton's genial superintendent. "But three of these have already been disposed of."

"The coatimundis (or ring-tailed coatis), South American animals, had five in their family. Three have been sent away to other zoos, but we still have two left here. Coatis are rarely bred in captivity, so we are rather proud of the achievement. Mother Coati was—luckily for us!—an ideal parent and lavished every care on her babies. But, of course, they did require some human attention and special feeding."

If Paignton's baby coatis have any rivals, it is the young drills (baboons), Sunday and Monday.

## Weighing the goat



With gentle hands this German child at Frankfurt Zoo weighs a week-old African Midget Goat on the kitchen scales.

They were born to different mothers who live in adjoining cages. "All the parents came from the dense forests of the Cameroons in 1948," said Mr. Smith. In both cases, the mother drills have done their duty well. They still nurse their babies constantly, while the respective fathers look on with obviously approving grimaces and gestures.

New arrivals at Paignton have been particularly numerous lately. Among them are three Tantalus

wood-storks imported from India and flown here by plane, and a Black-necked stork from the same source.

"We now have a trio of these Black-necked storks, and I think they are the only ones of their kind in Britain," said Mr. Smith. "The species is one of the tallest and most handsome of all the stork family, and we have had to take very great care of them, as they are delicate birds, not at all easy to bring safely through our English winter."

The biggest single collection to arrive at Paignton recently came from South America. It was

## Believe it or not



Robin, the Rock Iiyax from Nigeria, belongs to the same family as the elephant. He will grow to about the size of a rabbit.

brought home by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Durrell from a collecting trip in Paraguay and Argentina. The animals included a grison (kind of weasel), a pair of crab-eating raccoons, and a female douroucouli, and there was a large number of exotic birds. But the prize of the Durrell collection is undoubtedly a young anteater, which officials have named Sarah.

"Sarah was reared on the bottle by Mrs. Durrell, and this form of feeding was continued in the zoo for several weeks," said Mr. Smith. "Eventually she was weaned, but she still retains many of her baby ways and, we hope, will continue to do so for some time yet. She is passionately devoted to her keeper, following her around the grounds like a dog."

Sarah, incidentally, has appeared on Television.

## SAMMY SQUIRREL

Paignton has not only a fine collection of animals from abroad. In the grounds just now you will see several well-known British wild animals. Not the least interesting of these is Sammy, a red squirrel, presented by a local resident last December. Sammy (who had previously been kept as a family pet for nine months) is one of the tamest red squirrels the zoo has ever seen. He will readily take nuts from anybody, and even allow gentle caresses.

As I mentioned in my previous article on Paignton, there are usually a number of sea-birds to be seen in the grounds. Certainly there are many there today, among them being three gannets which had come to grief in the Torbay area. The birds are now doing well.

CRAVEN HILL

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Fully shrunk Denim, Navy, Yellow, Green, Wine, Brown, Blue, 3 pockets, elastic Goli Band. Inside leg 14 7/- and 15 in.

17, 18 in. 7/6; 20 in. 8/-; 22 in. 8/6; 24 in. 9/6

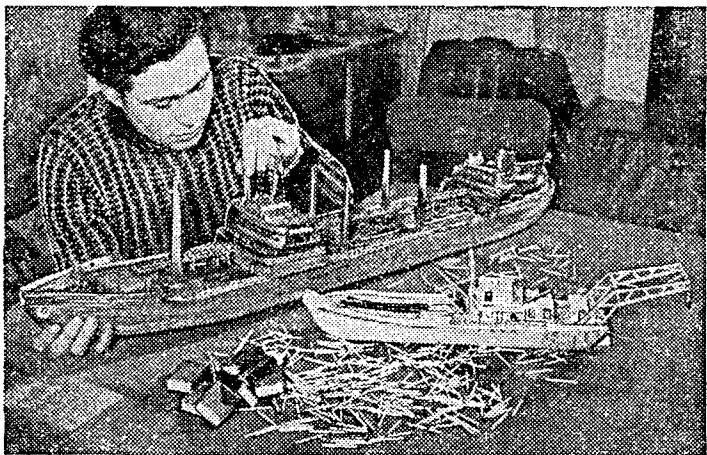
TEENAGERS' JEANS  
Navy Denim, Boys' with fly front. Girls' with zip side. Waist 24 in. Inside 13/6

Waist 26-28 in., inside leg 26-28 in., 14/6.

TARTAN BLOUSES  
Strong Cotton; wash well. Chest sizes 20 to 26 in.

Sizes 28 to 32 in. 8/6. 7/6  
Post & pkg. 6d. ex. order. Money back guar.  
WEST END SUPPLIES  
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### Built of ten thousand matches

Gunther Schikora, a Hamburg shipwright, took three months and used nearly 10,000 matches to make this model tanker in his spare time.

## They remembered Alva

Behind the 22 pleasant, red-roofed houses now being erected for elderly people at Alva, Clackmannanshire, lies a heart-warming story.

James, John, and Charles Cochrane were three brothers, the sons of a poor Alva weaver. In the year 1869, when trade was so bad that the boys were running bare-foot through the streets, the family decided to emigrate to America.

That was a turning-point in the career of the three brothers who, by dint of hard work and business ability, all became millionaires. In their success they did not forget their native town, returning regu-

larly for holidays to Alva and making many gifts to their birth-place, including a splendidly appointed public park, a public hall, and several endowment funds.

In 1935 the Cochrane Foundation was established for the old folk of Alva and year by year the brothers added generous gifts. When Charles, the last of the brothers, died in 1940 in Philadelphia, the Foundation received £400,000 from the Cochrane estate, and the Cochrane houses now being built are among the first benefits for the old folk of Alva to spring from this magnificent gift.

## THE MAN WHO FOUND GAPING GILL

It is just 60 years since Gaping Gill, Britain's biggest and most famous pot-hole, was "discovered" by a French climber, E. A. Martell. It is situated on the flanks of the big hill, Ingleborough, in Yorkshire.

In the summer of 1895 this intrepid adventurer descended the shaft, with ropes and ladders, lanterns and candles, and a telephone line to his wife at the top. After passing through a huge waterfall he touched sandy ground after 23 minutes' descent. On illuminating the scene he was amazed to find he was in a tremendous cavern, the one now known as the Main Chamber, which is big enough to contain a cathedral.

Since then the chamber has been thoroughly surveyed and visited by hundreds of people each year. In 1949 an easier way of entering it, instead of descending the 350-foot shaft, was discovered, through nearby Bar Pot. For many years potholers have been trying to find the link believed to exist between Gaping Gill and Ingleborough Cave, and frogmen having already penetrated some distance between the two. In all this investigation, however, it is appropriate to recall that first brave descent into the unknown by M. Martell just 60 years ago.

## Stamp News.

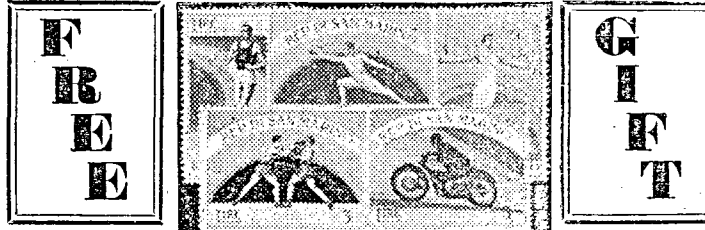
WINTERY scenes are shown on two new stamps. One from Canada depicts an Eskimo paddling his kayak in ice-bound water; the other, from Czechoslovakia, shows a skier amid snow-covered slopes. That Spring is not far behind is indicated by five other stamps. One is from Belgium, in honour of the Ghent Flower Festival; the others, from Luxembourg, depict various blooms in honour of the forthcoming Mondorf-les-Bains flower show.

FRANCE has released details of a series of six stamps now in preparation. To honour inventors, they show Le Bon with a flaming retort, Thimonnier with sewing machines, Appert with pressure cookers and a bottling factory, Deville with aluminium products, Martin with a blast furnace, and Chardonnat with chemical equipment.

## Competition result

Congratulations to Peter Bowden, of Gainsborough Road, Knighton, Leicester, whose entry in CN Competition No. 22 wins him the "Ace" Film Projector, complete with three films, offered as first prize. Surprise consolation awards go to: Rosemary Black, Gairloch; Marion Holley, Thornton Heath; Mona Jack, Midlothian; Christine Law, Sheffield; Eric Morgan, Penarth; Michael Pye, Colchester; Jennifer Salt, Northampton; Peter Scragg, Pidley; Rosemary Studholme, Edinburgh; and Diane Syndercombe, Sutton.

**Solution:** 1 Battery of Guns. 2 Pack of Hounds. 3 Peal of Bells. 4 Clutch of Eggs. 5 Litter of Puppies. 6 Flock of Birds.



To all who ask to see a selection of stamps, on approval, we will send absolutely FREE this fine new SPORTS SET from San Marino, showing WALKING, FENCING, BOXING, GYMNAST and MOTOR CYCLIST, all enormously attractive stamps in beautiful colours. Just send a 2½d. stamp for postage to

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## SINGHALESE STAMPS

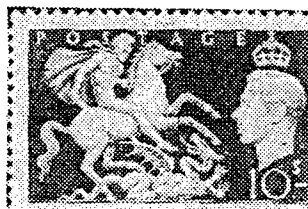
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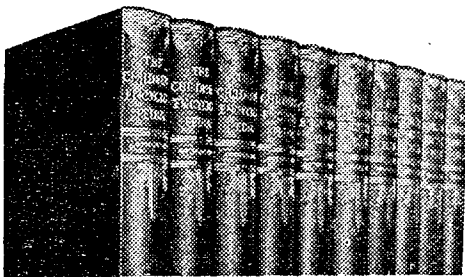
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## THE BRAIN TUB

### SEE

WHEN making a cake, if you put the slices of candied peel on the top of the cake when it is half cooked instead of when making, it will not fall into the middle of the cake as often happened with amateur cooks.

### SPOT THE . . .

LADYBIRD as it crawls on leaf or flower. Britain possesses a number of species of these pretty little beetles. The seven-spot is probably the most common variety. Its red wing-cases actually have eight spots, four on each case, but the two uppermost spots are joined when the wing-cases are closed.



In their larval state, seven-spot ladybirds have huge appetites and feed upon the greenfly which infest rose trees. They perform such good service in this direction that they are specially bred and sent to regions where greenfly abound.

### SEEING THE LIGHT

DID you hear about the boy who sat up all night trying to puzzle out where the sun had gone?

It eventually dawned on him!

### HOUSEHOLD HUNT

Can you dig out the buried household items in the following sentences?

It's fun spotting Dutch airliners and American jet planes near my home.  
My brother works on the farm at the corner of the lane.  
To most people a black eye is very embarrassing.  
I once beat him at chess and then at a game of draughts.  
We counted all the letters in kitchenette first.

Answer in column 5

## BEDTIME TALE

### BAD DAY FOR BILLY

BILLY and his family were spending a few days on a farm. One morning, as Billy went out into the lane, Uncle said, "There's a bull in the big meadow today, so mind you keep out."

But there was something in that particular meadow that he very much wanted to see—a nest with four speckled eggs in it. The day before he had been watching and waiting for the tiny fledglings to hatch out—he felt he must have just one peep.

With a quick look round, he climbed the stile and ran across to the far hedge, then, standing on tiptoe, he peeped in between the branches of an old apple tree. There was the nest, and there were the eggs, just as he had seen them the day before.

Billy stepped back, and only just missed treading on a little wild orchid. There were masses of flowers on the bank, and they

looked so pretty in the sunshine that Billy began to pick them. Suddenly a sound behind him made him turn.

A great beast with long horns was standing staring at him from the middle of the field.

With a cry Billy dropped his flowers, and ran as fast as his legs would carry him back to the stile. He jumped over but fell awkwardly and felt a sharp pain in his ankle.

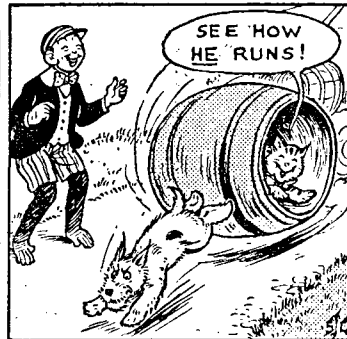
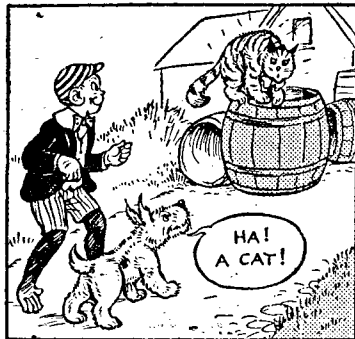
"Hi! What's the hurry?"

It was Sam, a farm worker.

"The bull!" gasped Billy. "Oh! Oh! my ankle! I think it's broken."

"Sprained more like," answered Sam, stooping to examine it. "But you'd best not try to walk. Hop into my barrow and I'll take you home. You're a big boy," he added with a chuckle, "to be afraid of an old milk cow!"

## JACKO SEES BOUNCER IN A BARREL OF TROUBLE



### HOWLERS

WE can collect sulphur fumes by holding a deacon over the end of a test tube.  
Dimples in girls' faces are dents inside out.  
We ventilate with hot currants.  
If a baby does not thrive on fresh milk it should be boiled.  
A momentum is given to a visitor when he is leaving.

### ALPHABET PUZZLE

The answers to the following clues all begin with the letter W.

IMPORTANT street in New York  
Duty on board  
Pretty addition to a pool  
Another name for a moorhen  
Bottle which feeds on grain  
Method of joining metals

Answer in column 5

### CONSISTENT

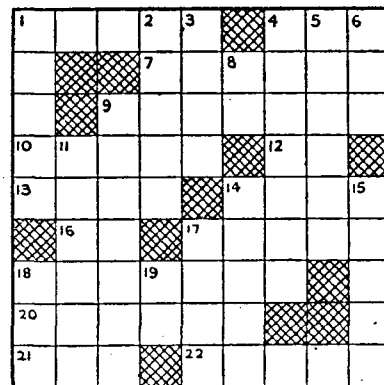
THAT he's ne'er known to change his mind,  
Is surely nothing strange;  
For no one yet could ever find  
He'd any mind to change!

### Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Profess. 4 Taxi. 7 Remove from office. 9 Act of repentance. 10 The Staff of Life. 12 Tonic-solfa note. 13 Amphibious mammal. 14 Camp in it. 16 Because. 17 Loans. 18 Firm. 20 Male singers. 21 Craft. 22 Actions.

READING DOWN. 1 You may see these on the beach. 2 Perfect. 3 Repair. 4 Satisfied. 5 Climb. 6 Busy insect. 8 Father. 9 Rustic. 11 Proof corrector. 14 Taut. 15 Former rulers of Russia. 17 Use it in cooking. 18 Actual Time of Arrival. 19 Medical Officer.

Answer next week



### ANSWER TO WORD QUIZ

1a, 2c, 3a, 4b, 5b.

### BRAN TUB ANSWERS

Household hunt. Chair, mat, key, matches, ink.  
Alphabet Puzzle. Wall Street, watch, water-tight, water-ben, weevil, welding  
Six words within. Patent  
Animal tails. Share, ducet, sprat, forbear, diagram, cutlass, vermilion, landscape



### With a poodle on the piano

Valerie Childs, from Harrow, is a brilliant young pianist. Already she has gained her A.R.C.M. and has appeared on T.V. Her poodle, Melodie, often attends her practice.

### SIX WORDS WITHIN

Can you find a six-letter word which contains words to fit the clues below?

My first two letters are short for father,

My first three a light blow,

Letters 3, 4, 5 a number,

Letters 2, 3, 4 consumed,

Letters 1, 2, 3, 4, crown of head,

Letters 3, 4, 5, 6 canvas habitation,

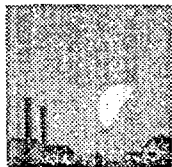
My whole—exclusive rights in an invention.

Answer in column 5

### OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Jupiter is in the south and Mars is low in the south-west. In the morning

Mercury is low in the east, Venus in the south-east, and Saturn is in the south. The picture shows the Moon as it will appear at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning, March 16.



# What do you know?



1. Can you name this building?



2. What is this man?



3. Do you recognise this strange rock formation?



4. Who is this famous historical character?

"Here's your friend Sir Kreemy Knut, mascot of Sharp's Toffees, introducing the first of a special series of quizzes. When you've tried all the questions, turn this advertisement upside-down to check your answers. No cheating, mind! If you've been specially clever and got them all right, you deserve some lovely Sharps Toffees: mmmmm ... Aren't they delicious? Quick—finish them up, before someone else wants one! And watch this paper for my next quiz."



## the word for Toffee

1. Westminster Abbey 2. A Mountie 3. Stalactites 4. King Henry VIII

Have you seen Sharps Puppet Theatre? Its visiting Doncaster and Chester soon, and it's free! Don't miss this super show.

